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THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF

ORIGINAL PIECES AND SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES OF MERIT, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A WORK CALCULATED TO DISSEMINATE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE AMONG ALL RANKS OF PEOPLE AT A SMALL EXPENCE,

BY

JAMES ANDERSON, L.L.D.
F.R.S.E. F.A.S.S.

Honorary Member of the Society of Arts, Agriculture, &c. at BATH; *of the Philosophical, and of the Agricultural Societies in* MANCHESTER; *of the Society for promoting Natural History,* LONDON; *of the Academy of Arts, Sciences, and Belles Lettres,* DIJON; *and correspondent Member of the Royal Society of agriculture* PARIS; *Author of several Performances.*

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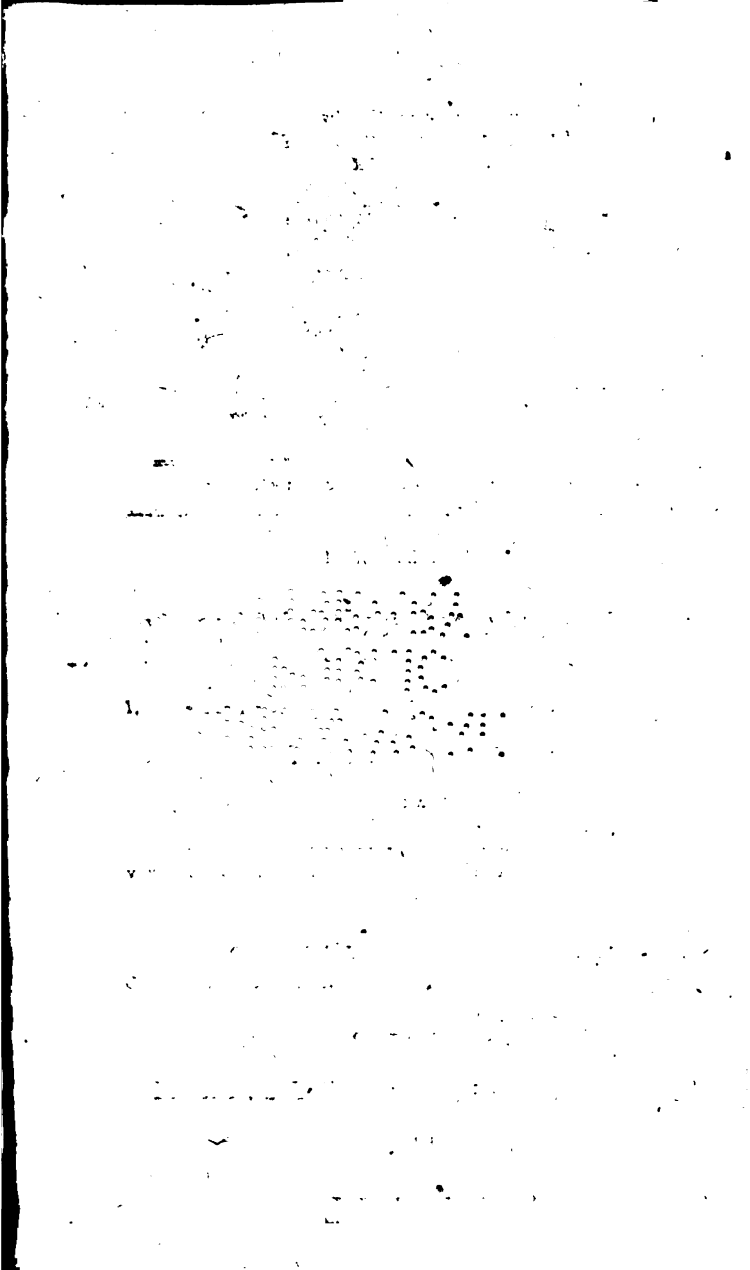


ENGRAVED FOR THE BEE

James Anderson M.D

MADRAS.

Published by J. Anderson, May 9th 1792.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9. 1792.

MEMOIRS OF DR JAMES ANDERSON

PHYSICIAN AT MADRAS.

With a portrait.

IT is a trite observation that the life of a literary person furnishes few materials for the biographer: It is still more true, that a person, whose exertions have been uniformly directed by beneficence, goes on in a smooth and uniform tract in his progress through life, that exhibits none of those tremenduous scenes, which, by shocking the mind, rouse the attention of the vacant spectators, so as to afford them amusement. Hence the life of a Howard or a Hanway is passed over with indifference; while that of Jenghiz Khan rouses the active faculties of the mind.

The object of the present memoir has been in India upwards of thirty years; and during all that time has been engaged in enterprises, calculated to promote the welfare of the natives of that country. Instead of applying his talents to the acquisition of wealth as his principal object, which is so generally the case with those who go to that country from hence, he has ever

considered that object of inferior importance to those of beneficence and kindness; and though he has long occupied a place of such consequence in India as might have enabled him to acquire, in an honourable way, such a fortune as might have satisfied the wishes of the most avaricious, he has contented himself with applying what wealth came in his way, to acts of kindness to those who have merited it at his hands, and to generous efforts, to better the state of the poor people around him. To accumulate wealth for other purposes is a study that he despises. He has adopted that country as his own: nor can he ever feel the effects of languor, while he is engaged in the active pursuits of measures that promise to diffuse immediate happiness around him, and to pave the way for general prosperity, after he shall be removed from this active scene.

A character so uncommon, when joined with superior talents, and a liberal education, could not fail to attract, in time, the notice of gentlemen in India; but time was required to ascertain the real bent of that character. In India, as well as in Europe, there are to be found, men who strive to advance their own interest, under the specious pretext of general philanthropy; so that there, as well as here, it is not at once that the true value of all such pretensions can be ascertained for many years, therefore, the efforts of this man were confined only to a narrow sphere; they were known only to his intimate acquaintance, nor did he make any particular efforts to make them be publicly taken notice of. His operations, however, were steady and uninterrupted. He took pleasure in useful researches, and pursued them; nor did he

ever spend a thought about the opinion that others might form of them. These exertions, however, produced a silent and imperceptible effect. Young men, who, when in destitute circumstances, had found an hospitable shelter under his roof, caught from him a portion of that spirit with which he was animated;—this inspired them with a similar ardour. When they were dispersed over the extensive provinces of India, they wished to recommend themselves to the notice of their benefactor, by co-operating with him in promoting his views of public utility. An extensive correspondence was thus established all over India, of which he was the centre. His name came to be known, and of course revered: it at length reached Europe. The Court of Directors of the India company, struck with the useful prospects that his plans opened up, recommended them to the attention of their governors abroad; and, by this means, his influence there became still more extensive than formerly. The only use he made of this influence was to recommend to government, and the nation at large, an attention to such circumstances as promised to benefit the country where he resides.

To disseminate useful knowledge as universally as possible in India, Dr Anderson has printed, from time to time in Madras, the letters that have passed between himself and correspondents, on subjects of national improvements, which, at his own expence, he has distributed all over India. This has tended very much to facilitate his views. Copies of these publications he has regularly forwarded to the wri-

ter of this article. To give some idea of the nature of this correspondence, and the objects it embraces, I beg leave to subjoin the following letters:

Letter from Dr James Anderson to the honourable John Hollond, president and governor, &c. and council of Madras.

HON. SIR AND SIRS, *Nov.* 24. 1789.

NEAR three years ago, nests of insects were brought me from the woods, which adhered to branches of the staphylæa vepretum, and resembled small cowry shells: to convince me they were wholesome, the people eat many of them with avidity.

I afterwards found the same kind of nests on the wodier, sitodium, calophyllum, inophyllum, and rondeletia, filled sometimes with a motionless red substance, at other times, a numerous hive of small creeping red insects, and frequently only an empty thin husk, or pellicle of the mother insect remained as a lining.

Lately the abbé Grosier's history of China fell into my hands, where, under the article wax tree, I found an insect mentioned which seemed to correspond with what I had seen; I then threw some of the nests, which are properly the enamel white covering of an insect, in the manner of lac, into olive oil, heated over the fire, where they were soon dissolved; on cooling, the mixture lost its fluidity, became as hard and firm as tallow or mutton suet, and retained some degree of transparency, although it possessed the colour of bleached wax.

The Wotters call them peti billum, palm sugar; the Talingas, sima mynum, ants wax; the Tamuls, araku koondu, wax cover basket; and the Chinese call theirs pe-la, white wax.

The greater size of the pe-la may be owing to culture; and the abbé says, that only two kinds of trees, the can-la-

chu, and choui-la-chu, on which it is necessary to place the insects with care, afford them proper nourishment.

I thought it not improper to mention this singular production, as it promises to convert oil into the consistence of wax, and serve other useful purposes.

I have the honour to transmit the copy of a letter of instructions to Dr Berry, for the farther ordering the plantation at the nopalry. I am favoured with your letter of the 18th instant, and have no doubt, with such assistance, and foreign aid, of establishing a collection of valuable plants, that may be extended to the management of the natives in the honourable company's possessions, with public advantage. I am, *&c.*

From the same to the same.

HON. SIR AND SIRS, *Dec.* 11. 1789.

YOUR ready acquiescence to the importation of valuable plants will enable me to derive advantage from the researches of the Asiatic Society, by the hopes I entertain that you will solicit the supreme board for plants of the mahwah tree, so certainly supplying food in hot countries, as described by lieutenant Charles Hamilton, a member of that Society.

In this country the materia medica extends to the bark of every tree, and is the principal cause of our want of timber, almost every tree being stripped of its bark at an early period, by the natives, either for themselves, or on purpose to cure the diseases of cattle; and it must be allowed that many of them are useful in this view, such as the melias, some mimosas, the genus ficus, and cassia; perhaps the custom of living in clay houses, has prevented them seeing much disadvantage in the want of timber: Thatch, in most common use, of andropogon nardus, is light and

easily supported, rendering large timbers, as beams of houses, unneceſsary.

But it may be considered that the honourable company are at a very considerable expence for the Pegu teak, employed in gun carriages, and other neceſsary works, as well as the Europeans here in house building; nor ſhould the unhealthineſs of the clay houses of the natives, in the wet season, paſs unnoticed, while the true riches of a country is the number of useful inhabitants.

It is a distant prospect to look forward to the growth of trees, but this affords the best reason why no time ſhould be lost in beginning to plant them. Some vines I planted here, gave grapes in thirteen months, when they were of such a size, that a native of the territory of Berry aſsured me they would be deemed the growth of seven years in France; and I am convinced that timber trees come to as much size and perfection here in twenty years, as the timber trees in England attain in sixty

Previously, however, to the planting of trees for timber, it would be well if the head men of every village were advised of the utility of establiſhing a store of bark of every different kind of tree, the bark of which is in use, that those who are in want may be supplied at a moderate valuation, without exposing all trees promiscuously to be barked.

Another circumstance in this country merits much attention, being no leſs than the idleneſs of many of the labourers, from the beginning of February, when the crop is gathered in, until the month of August, that the partial ſhowers of the season enable them to scratch the ground with the small unimproved ancient plough.

A suspension of labour for half the year, or even a ſhorter space of time, will occasion want and disease among the lower claſses in any country; and here the extreme wretchedneſs that appears in their countenances,

marks those termed Parajadi, another cast, and Teidpu, base tribe, most conspicuously.

In the Talinga countries they are called Coolie tribe, Pariar tribe; and in general bear a proportion of one to two, or a third of those that labour in the field for the cultivation of the crop, and seventh of the whole inhabitants of the country.——They are considered hereditary slaves to the villages, and their offices, from which they are excluded by an uncharitable superstition, to a place called the Parcheree, and when troops march through the country are forced out to carry the baggage of the army. In the late war, attended with famine and pestilence, these men were the first and greatest sufferers.

A certain ratio is extorted from the country, which is more moderate in the poſseſsions of the honourable company than elsewhere, amounting to half the whole produce; let it be considered, however, that this half is always taken without exception, and the reason will appear how no work is begun or carried on, that requires time and apparatus to accompliſh,—how most villages are even without a garden,—how none of the palms are to be seen, the fruit of which are such desirable objects of food that they are imported from other countries,—how so little good indigo is made here, where the best indigo plant is a weed,—how there is no cotton for exportation, although the manufactory of cloth here declines; the sugar boiler and collector can never determine who ſhould defray the expence of copper veſsels to improve his work; and fields of salt are diſsolved and waſhed away by the rains, because government claims a uſeleſs ſhare, and the natives want the incitement of a foreign market.

To improve and extend materials for foreign trade, without which these establiſhments cannot long exist, certain substantial provision for the labourer ſhould first be

devised, as the dryneſs of some seasons does not even afford a sufficient supply of rice.

It is therefore neceſsary for the villages to be indulged in laying out the dry ground near them in inclosures, where they might cultivate yams, potatoes, melons, pompions, beans, *&c.* and fruit trees for their own use without deduction.

This would enable them to employ the slaves and lower claſses throughout the year, in a healthy and robust state, for the culture of the great crop, and advantage of the revenue.

I would recommend that villages be marked out in those parts of the Jaguhire that remain unoccupied since the late war, where the native pensioners may be permitted to settle at pleasure, exempt from all taxation, for at least ten years to come; and in the home farms, of like deserted description, the Wotters, who do all the heavy work of removing earth, may be permitted to settle with great advantage to Madras.

It gives me much satisfaction to observe the directors corresponding on the article of indigo, with men of such adequate information as the lords committee of the privy council for trade, as publiſhed in October last by the honourable the governor general, and request you will transmit the honourable court a small box filled with the white covering of insects, mentioned in my last letter, which I now find to be the covering of an insect similar to the lac insect described by Mr Keir of Patna.

From the same to the same.

Hon. Sir and Sirs, *Dec.* 18. 1789.

The people I employ here have at last transplanted healthy young trees of the diospyros ebenum, from the mountains near Tripati, into the garden at the nopalry, the

reverend Mr John of Tranquebar has supplied eugenia jambos and artocarpus incisa; Mr Steuart at Changama, santalum album; Mr Mein at Trichinopoly, some young plants of a tree, the bark of which is a very fine kind of cork, as well as plants of a tree said to produce a kind of benzoin, and santalum album; and my inquiries have discovered dammer trees in the neighbourhood of Tripati, the produce of which constitutes a considerable article of the trade between the western coast of this peninsula and China.

On these mountains Dr Koening described the gardenia enneandria, and gardenia gummifera, as two different species, and the care with which he distinguished species precludes the idea he could be mistaken; they both yield a resinous granulated sap, possessing the aroma of the drug called gum elemi, a concrete piece of which I have the honour to transmit you for the inspection of the learned in Europe.

Accompanying this is a specimen of the bow-string flax mentioned in my letter to Dr Berry of the 15th *ultimo*, which, for the reasons there stated, I think an object worthy every possible attention, and likewise directed to the honourable Court of Directors.

Mr Mason from Kew garden is on his third voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, to whom, and to colonel Gordon, I intend transmitting copies of my publications, with a view to render the nopalry garden more extensively useful; and as none of our outward bound ships touch at the Cape, the compliment of a letter from you to that government, stating the establishment of a garden here for the culture of foreign plants, would prove highly serviceable, by enabling these gentlemen to procure conveyance for many valuable productions of their wide and unwearied researches.

Your order to the ships under dispatch for the receipt of a box containing China, Isle of France, and Kew garden nopals, four of each to be left at St Helena under the care and management of the governor, will be necessary.

In your first general letter you may acquaint the honourable Court of Directors, that the two Kew garden nopals, sent on the Bridgewater, have multiplied in the course of sixteen months to 185 plants, although one of them was killed by a sudden fall of rain in July, there being 144 at the nopalry, sixteen in my garden, including the original plant, which is now five feet high, three in a garden I caused to be made near Conjeviram; three with baron Richel, at Ennore; four with Mr Young at Ongole; two sent to Calcutta; four to Mr Roxburgh, at Chamirla Cottah; four to Mr Fleming at Aska; three to major Yvon at the Isle of France; and the four now in readiness for St Helena.

I am, *&c.*

From the same to the same.

HON. SIR AND SIRS, *Dec.* 29. 1789.

As it appears by the experiments made at the instance of the lords committee of the privy council for trade, that the indigo of this country is intrinsically good, notwithstanding the adulterations practised in its preparation, some attentions of government are, therefore, wanting to render the permission of conveyance on board the honourable company's ships of much utility.

To illustrate the propriety of farther attention to the country, I need only mention the purchase of Pegu timber, when Rajamundry teak is of a better quality, and in quantity sufficient for the use of the whole coast.

But the Rajamundry teak, after it is purchased, and thrown into the Gadavery, is taxed by every zemindar in your territories bordering on the river, till it arrives at the

sea side, in a duty amounting to more than double the prime cost.

It is easy to see that the company, as well as the country, would be benefitted by considering what this duty, one year with another, amounts to, that by remitting so much in the revenue the wood might pass free, and prevent the loss of importing it from abroad.

A mode of this kind might be adopted for indigo, and other articles of foreign export, which are at present useless productions of the country, not only by such impediments as I have just mentioned, to the extensive navigation of the Gadavery, but likewise the custom-houses on all the market roads in every part of the country.

If it then appears that the company's possessions do not yield enough to supply the market, the Lombardies will bring indigo as well as oil seeds from the Mahratta countries in exchange for salt.

In the various expeditions of the Soubah, the Lombardies are entertained as the carriers of stores; but on the coast they are taxed by every petty zemindar through whose districts they pass, in a duty of eleven rupees *per* hundred, for the cattle in their encampment, notwithstanding your salt farms would be useless without them.

I am, *&c.*

From the same to the same.

HON. SIR, AND SIRS, *Dec.* 30. 1789.

THE vegetation at sea of the plants from Kew garden being so small, amounting only to five inches in height, and three quarters of an inch in circumference, the arrival of insects from America must be precarious.

It is, therefore, my opinion, they should be first introduced at St Helena; and for that purpose a dozen nopal plants are in readiness, for the care and culture of which it

will be necessary you should write to the government of that place, by the ship General Goddard, now at anchor in the roads, under dispatch.

I must likewise request your issuing orders for that ship to receive the plants on board. I am, &c.

To Dr James Anderson.

Sir, *Dec.* 30. 1789.

I am directed by government to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters under the date 24th *ult.* and 11th, 23d, 29th inst. The small parcels accompanying them are to be sent by the General Goddard to the honourable the Court of Directors, and an order will be given to the commander to receive the box mentioned by you to be left at St Helena.

It appearing to government that your late letters to them contain remarks on various points which do not seem to have any relation to the nopalry, or to fall within the line of your department, you are therefore requested to confine your observations to the objects first intended on the establishment of the present nopalry, and the introduction of plants. I am, &c. Charles White, *Sec.*

From this last it will appear that it was only in obedience to the commands of his superiors that Mr Hollond gave any countenance to these pursuits. Since the abdication, or flight, or what you please to call it, of that gentleman, the administration of Madras has been more favourable to the views of our patriotic improver.

Since that time, notwithstanding the war, so unfavourable to his views, Dr Anderson prosecutes his discoveries with unwearied attention. The rearing of silk, and the cultivation of indigo, are the objects he

thinks most likely to furniſh employment to the bulk of the people; and the progreſs he has made in the ſilk rearing in ſo ſhort a time, is truly aſtoniſhing. Our limits prevent the inſertion of letters that tend to eſtabliſh this fact. I cannot, however, deny myſelf the pleaſure of inſerting the following letter on the ſubject of ſilk rearing in India:

To the hon. Sir Charles Oakely bart. ſenior member, and council.

HON. SIRS, *April* 18. 1790.

A NECESSARY attention to the duties of my ſtation in the military department, has hitherto prevented any acknowledgement of your favour, enclosing the extract of a general letter from the honourable Court of Directors, dated the 19th of May, 1790; and although a ſtate of war is ever precarious, yet the ſuperior diſcipline of our troops, and the ſkill of the commanders in maintaining war in the enemy's country, will, I truſt, excuſe my writing occaſionally on the arts of peace that may be promoted in this.

I am pleaſed with the approval of the honourable court, becauſe they will ſee from my report of Sept. 14. 1789, the readineſs in which their nopalry ſtands to receive the beſt kind of cochineal inſects from America, where alone they can be found. I therefore hope that no time will be loſt in ſending them here.

Some mulberry trees I introduced about twenty years ago grew ſo luxuriantly, that I was at pains to obtain the eggs of the ſilk-worm from Bengal at ſeveral different times. The firſt embarkation could not be hatched, the ſecond hatched on the paſſage, but the third, which came in one of the ſtore-ſhips in December laſt, has ſucceeded; and not one of the worms have died of diſeaſe in this climate, or till ſuch time as all their evolutions were accompliſhed.

When I tell you that the lady governeſs has directed a plantation of mulberry trees at the Female Aſylum, and that several of my friends are now employed in the care of silk-worms on different parts of the coast, you will, I am sure, think with me, that so favourable an opportunity of establiſhing a manufacture of public utility, ſhould be exposed to as little riſk as poſsible; especially when I likewise aſsure you that I have constructed the Piemontese reel agreeable to the plan in the French Encyclopedia, which has cost the company many thousand pounds for defraying the expence of Italian artists sent to Bengal.

The most authentic accounts I have been able to procure, state the contracts for silk at Coſsimbuzar, to amount yearly to sixty lacks of rupees, which is not half the value of 22,000 bales, the former produce of that country; indeed I have underſtood that Tippoo Sultan has lately supplied the interior parts of the peninsula with silk made at Seringapatnam, yet the demand is ever considerable.

As my views have been uniformly directed to point out the means of earning a subsistence at all times to the meaner and lower claſses of the people, of a nature adapted to their genius and disposition, it will only be neceſsary to represent to you the mode in which this may be effected.

I therefore recommend that the revenue board be instructed to direct mulberry plantations at every village on the coast, which, if I am not much mistaken, may be done at little or no expence, by means of the collectors and Natowars, or natives, who direct the cultivation.

The ground for mulberry plantations ſhould be a light friable soil, capable of being watered in the hot season; and at the same time so high as not to be flooded in the wet; such are the banks of all the rivulets on the coast.

As the insects can speedily be multiplied, and distributed whenever mulberry plantations are sufficiently establiſhed,

I have caused as many to be planted in my own garden, and at the nopalry, as will supply abundance of cuttings for the gardens of all the collectors, from whence they may be afterwards distributed amongst the villagers.

The island of Cosimbuzar and its neighbourhood, where alone silk is made in Bengal, is but a small spot, compared with the extent of the coast. In four months of cold season neither does the mulberry put forth leaves, nor the eggs of the silk-worm hatch, whereas the cold season here is sufficiently warm for both, and the silk I have made is more brilliant than that of Bengal.

In Europe the worm undergoes but one evolution in the year, whereas mine are in the third generation since the 14th of December last.

Several gentlemen have brought silk-worms here since I have been in India, which for want of plan, attention, or perseverance, have come to nothing; and although the war at present is a great hinderance to the full adoption of any plan for this purpose, yet from the ease with which it may be effected, and that mulberry cuttings, planted before the monsoon, will live with little farther trouble, I am induced to hope that ground will be laid out for plantations as soon as possible. I am, *&c.*

JAMES ANDERSON.

Extract of a letter from the same to the same.

May 9. 1790.

As the introduction of silk here must be attended with increase of all the present branches of revenue, by the consumption of necessaries depending on a richer population, and nothing promises so fair to repair the waste of different Mysorean wars, I think it altogether worthy your attention to hold up an exemption from taxes on mulberry plantations, or silk reared by the natives.

I am, *&c.*

Since the above letters were written, it appears that he had been very rightly informed with regard to the silk manufacture introduced by Tippoo Sultan into his dominions, which before the irruption of our troops into that country, afforded employment to many of his people. Since the conquest of Bangalore some of these people who are acquainted with the rearing of silk-worms, have been induced to become instructors to those in the British settlements; and it is probable that in a very few years, abundance of silk may be obtained from the peninsula of India.

Dr James Anderson the beneficent promoter of these useful enterprises, was the son of Mr Andrew Anderson, a man of great worth, and much esteemed by all who knew him, who practised medicine at a village six miles from Edinburgh called Long Herniston. The rudiments of his education were obtained at a country school in that neighbourhood; and they were completed at Edinburgh, under the tuition of Dr Cullen, and other eminent professors of that university. His circumstances in early youth were by no means affluent; but his progress in every branch of science that he studied was remarkable. He was of course particularly noticed by all his teachers. He left the university while still very young. He went out as a surgeon to an East India ship in the spring of the year 1759. He went out once more in the year 1761. Soon after his going out this second time, he was appointed physician general to the presidency of Madras, where he has resided

constantly since that time. His mother, a woman above ninety years of age, of a hale constitution, enjoys from him a comfortable substistence in her old age. He seems indeed to value money in no other respect than as it enables him to be kind to those who have occasion for his afsistance. The writer of this article, who was his companion in youth, his school fellow in studies, and his correspondent ever since, abstains from any eulogium, which could not be well received. To those who know him not, the bare truth would appear a violent exaggeration; to those who do know him, that which would be barely tolerated by others would appear so far short of truth as to give them great offence. It may be with justice said, that the natives of India never met with an European who knew their situation so well, or who so cordially applied himself to promote their real interests. It is not impofsible, that, in future times, the recollection of this man may tend to preserve from total execration the European name in India.

ON THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN,

LETTER VI.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

To the war with Spain in 1739, there was added another against France, which was declared on the 31st of March 1744. I am now to give a short view of the causes and termination of this contest; and I begin by reciting a few miscellaneous transactions, from the accefsion of the house of Brunswick to that period.

"The safety of Hanover, and its aggrandisement, "were the main objects of the British court *." On this principle it was, that, in 1719, George I. purchased from the queen of Sweden, and annexed to his German dominions, the dutchies of Bremen and Verden. The price was a million of rix dollars †; that interruption of commerce with Russia, and those naval expeditions to the Baltic, in defence of Sweden, which were specified in my last letter.—On the 16th June 1721, the king sent a message to the House of Commons, importing that he had agreed to pay a subsidy to Sweden of seventy-two thousand pounds, and that he *hoped they would enable him to make good his engagements.* The supply was granted. In about three weeks after, they were informed that the debts of the civil list amounted to *five hundred and fifty thousand pounds;* and that his majesty was confident they would impower him to raise that sum *upon the revenue;* which, after warm opposition, was permitted. On the 8th April 1725, the house received a message of the same kind; upon which "Mr Pulteney expressed his surprise, that a debt, "amounting to *above five hundred thousand pounds*, "should have been contracted in *three years:* He said he "did not wonder that some persons should be so ea-

* Guthrie edit. xi. page 518.

† Vide Smollet's history. At three shillings and sixpence *per* rix dollar, this sum amounts to one hundred and seventy-five thousand pounds; and at four shillings and sixpence, to two hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds. Mr Paine (Rights of Man, part ii. p. 117.) states the money at two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and adds what cannot be doubted, that the purchase was made *with the savings of the civil list.*

" ger to make good the deficiences of the civil list, " since *they and their friends enjoyed such a share of* " *that revenue*; and he desired to know, whether " this was all that was due, or *whether they should* " *expect another reckoning?*" * Leave was granted to raise any sum *not exceeding a million.* In 1726, his majesty entered into an agreement with the king of Sweden. He was to pay that monarch fifty thousand pounds *per annum* for three years, and the Swede was to keep in readiness *ten thousand men* for the service of England. The landgrave of Hesse Cassel was engaged to provide *twelve thousand men.* He received seventy-four thousand pounds in hand, and was to have fifty thousand pounds more if his troops were wanted. In 1727 his majesty obtained an unlimited vote of credit for such sums as he should think necessary to employ in securing the trade of England, and restoring the peace of Europe. He died soon after, and we must agree with Dr Smollet " that " at the accession of George II. the nation had " great reason to wish for *an alteration of measures*;" but unhappily, as he soon after observes, " the system " of politics which the late king had *established, under-* " *went no sort of alteration.*" An hundred thousand pounds were immediately added to the civil list. Mr Shippen opposed this measure in an able harangue, and the money was voted by Walpole's mercenaries without a reply. On a message from the king they settled *an hundred thousand pounds a-year* as a provision for the queen, in case she survived her hus-

* Smollet's history.

band. Her death in 1737, preserved the kingdom from such a stupenduous burden.

In January 1728, "the House of Commons granted "*two hundred and thirty thousand, nine hundred and* "*twenty-three pounds* for the maintenance of twelve "thousand Hessian troops; a subsidy of fifty thousand "pounds to the king of Sweden; and twenty-five "thousand pounds to the duke of Wolfenbuttle *." Two hundred and fifty thousand pounds had been charged for securing the trade of England, and *restoring* the peace of Europe, which by the way was not restored, conform to the vote of credit in the the preceding session. The house were honest enough to solicit the king for a particular and distinct account of the distribution of this sum, which his majesty refused, as it had been employed, he affirmed, by his father and himself in services *which required the greatest secresy* †. A short time after, in examining the public accounts laid before the house, it was discovered, "that an article of *three hundred thousand* "*pounds*, relating to the duty upon wrought plate, "was *totally omitted* ‡." As usual, a violent debate ensued, and the fraud was rectified. Another unlimited vote of credit was passed; five hundred thousand pounds were granted for the payment of seamen's wages; and the session dissolved on 28th May 1728.

The house again met in January following, and *an hundred and fifteen thousand pounds* were voted to make up a fresh deficiency in the civil list. Every transaction of this kind cost an obstinate battle. Our

* Smollet's history. † Ibid. ‡ Ibid.

ancestors had sense enough to see what they were about, and where they were driving; but debates were become a mere farce. Corruption had reached its zenith, and then, as now, even the deformity of public measures vanished in an abyss of personal infamy. In 1729, an effort was made to rid this country of "the maintenance of *the twelve thousand Hessians*." But the ministerial band bore down all opposition. Frequent remonstrances were made, but to no purpose, against the subsidies continued to Hesse Cassel, and Wolfenbuttle. In 1731, lord Bathurst moved for an address to his majesty, requesting him to discharge the Hessians. The motion was rejected. It is not wonderful to hear that five members were at this time expelled the House of Commons for breach of trust, but it is quite inconceivable what crime could be considered as base enough to degrade them beneath a seat in such an assembly. During the reign of Walpole the history of England will not bear a reading. There is nothing but a dull, uniform, and disgusting scene of treachery.

"Walpole," says the king of Prussia, "had captivated his majesty by the savings which he made "out of the civil list, from which *George filled* "*his Hanoverian treasury**!" What a beautiful system of government! In 1733, Walpole proceeded to a step worse perhaps than any which he had attempted before. He broke in upon the *sinking fund*,—a resource solemnly appropriated by parliament to the discharge of the national debt; he

* History of my own times chap. ii.

abstracted five hundred thousand pounds, and the practice having once begun, this fund was, in 1736, anticipated and mortgaged*. Admitting, as we must, that government was divested of all sense of principle and of shame, yet, as the nation was at peace, and taxed to the utmost stretch, it is an object of surprise what could have become of such immense sums of money? and by what means a man of sense and abilities, like Walpole, should have been reduced to such detestable and desperate expedients? His scheme of an excise on tobacco, as far as I comprehend it, was far less oppressive than that introduced so much to the satisfaction of all parties by the minister of the present day. His motion was forced through the House of Commons, which was instantly blockaded by the citizens of London. The partizans of the minister were loaded with insults, and Walpole himself was burnt in effigy. He foresaw that his life was in danger, as the nation had not then sunk into its present stupidity. The plan was therefore laid aside, and five hundred thousand pounds were obtained by the notable resource of a lottery. On the marriage at this time of the princess royal with the prince of Orange, she received eighty thousand pounds, and an annuity of five thousand pounds for life. There was a terrible debate about repealing the septennial act: In which Sir William Wyndham, in a very remarkable speech, quoted verbatim by Smollet, drew the character of his majesty as a prince "uninformed, ignorant, un-

* Guthrie's grammar p. 298.

"acquainted with the inclinations and true interest "of his people; weak, capricious, transported with "*unbounded ambition*, and INSATIABLE AVARICE." Though we were still at peace, twelve hundred thousand pounds were borrowed from the sinking fund for the service of the current year. A subsidy of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty pounds was, not long after, voted to the king of Denmark, and *another million sterling* abstracted from the sinking fund.

In February 1735, the accounts of the navy were laid before the parliament. One article may serve as a specimen of the rest. About two hundred and fifty thousand pounds were exacted, not for building of ships, but for the pretended building of *houses* for the commissioners and other officers of admiralty *. Walpole had not even paid parliament the previous compliment of consulting them. In 1736, a million was again borrowed from the sinking fund, and still in the midst of a profound peace. It is natural enough that the word *Walpole* has become synonymous to bribery. Pulteney, and some of the opposition, were but little better. They wanted the minister to settle an hundred thousand pounds a-year on the prince of Wales. It had been fixed at about half that sum; and this revenue was, it seems, unequal to his necessities. Though a temperate and moderate man, he died bankrupt, and his debts are at this day *unpaid*. For the discharge of them by his family would have been only an act of justice, not a political job.

* Beatson's Naval Memoirs, vol. i. page 25.

In August 1739, Britain entered into a treaty with the landgrave of Hesse for four years. We were to pay him two hundred and fifty thousand crowns *per annum*, and to be supplied with six thousand men.

On the 20th October 1740, died our once projected king of Spain, the emperor Charles VI. He was succeeded by his daughter Maria Theresa. George II. by one of his endless treaties, had engaged to defend her dominions, if attacked, with an army of twelve thousand men. In April 1741, he informed the House of Peers, that he had ordered the subsidy troops of Denmark and Hesse Cassel, to be ready to march to her assistance. Sir Robert Walpole moved, that an aid of *two hundred thousand pounds* should be granted to her. Mr Shippen protested against any such interposition in the affairs of Germany. He remarked, "that had such a connection been "foreseen, it might for ever have precluded from "the succession that *illustrious* family to whom the "nation were indebted for *such numberless blessings*, "*such continued felicity*!" The two hundred thousand pounds were voted*, and three hundred thousand pounds additional, to enable his majesty effectually to support the queen of Hungary. Another million was borrowed from the sinking fund.

Since the accession of the House of Brunswick, they had entered into at least some hundreds of separate treaties with almost every different prince

* Smollet, from whom I am abridging, a few pages after states this sum at *three* hundred thousand pounds. And Beatson says that in April 1741, two hundred thousand pounds were granted to his majesty for a *secret* expedition. Naval memoirs vol. 1. p. 76.

and state in Christendom. By one of these transactions, concluded about this time, Frederick tells us, "that the kings of Poland and England had formed "an offensive alliance, by which *they divided the* "*Prussian provinces*. Their imagination fattened "on that prey; and while they declaimed against "the ambition of a young prince, they were already "enjoying his spoils *." Had their *most sacred* majesties been able to read Shakespeare, one might have suspected that Falstaff was their favourite hero. "Now," says the knight, "shall I see the bottom "of Justice Shallow. If the young dace be a bait "for the old pike, I see no reason in the law of na-"ture but *I may snap at him*." But the dominions of a Frederick were not to be partitioned by such adversaries as George or Augustus. In 1742 when Walpole found himself in a minority, a message was sent to the prince of Wales, importing, that if he and his party would make proper advances, fifty thousand pounds *per annum* should be added to his revenue, and two hundred thousand pounds should be disbursed *to pay his debts*. It is needless to expatiate on such a proposal. It was rejected; and even the friends of the prince, when they mounted the saddle, seem to have been ashamed of attempting so profligate a project; for in March 1751, at the distance of *nine years*, they suffered his royal highness to die insolvent. Walpole was driven from his post, and a committee were appointed to inquire into his conduct. It appeared, "that, during the last ten years, he had "touched for *secret service*, one million four hun-

* History of my own times, chap. ii.

" dred and fifty-three thousand four hundred pounds " of the public money *." Of this sum more than fifty thousand pounds had been paid to scribblers in defence of his ministry. A crowd of scandalous and pitiful circumstances were discovered, though the inquiry was stifled in the bud. Walpole used to boast that *every man had his price*, and he frankly professed the most sovereign contempt for every pretence of honesty or public spirit. Such was the master who, with absolute authority, governed the *freemen* of England for twenty years. Yet he had three excellent qualities,—he possessed much good nature, despised personal revenge, and detested war. Parliamentary bribery was very bad; but military butchery was a thousand times worse. He therefore differed from his successors in office, as a pickpocket differs from an assassin. One of the first acts of parliament, after his resignation, was to provide for the subsidies to Denmark, and Hesse Cassel; and five hundred thousand pounds for the queen of Hungary. The supplies of the year amounted to near six millions sterling, of which more than one half was borrowed from the sinking fund, or the bank of England. Thus did the nation " lavish her blood and " treasure, in supporting the interest and allies of " *a puny electorate, in the north of Germany*† !" We now see one good reason why the French and Spanish privateers, took three thousand two hundred and thirty-eight British vessels. The money which ought to have been expended in squadrons for their protection, was bestowed on those enemies of mankind, the despots of Germany. Charity begins at

* Smollet. † Smollet.

home, says the proverb, and when your own house is on fire, you will hardly be persuaded to run a mile to extinguish the flames of another. Such a history affords about as much entertainment and satisfaction as the chronicle of Tyburn. The balance both of virtues and abilities turns perhaps in favour of the triple tree. What is the guilt of a simple footpad to that of a tyrant, who wantonly drives whole empires into an ocean of blood? The British cabinet may be considered as a kind of volcano in the *moral* world, spreading destruction in the proportion of an Alps to a mole hill beyond the petty ravages of Etna, or Vesuvius.

Laurencekirk, April 16. 1792. TIMOTHY THUNDERPROOF.

ANECDOTE.

IN the year 1777, two soldiers took a fancy to go hear a sermon; the orator was Mr Murray, well known for his doctrine of universal salvation. In the afternoon of the same day, another preacher exhibited; but his doctrine was diametrically the reverse of what they had heard in the morning.

"Tom," said one of them, "do you hear how differently these folks preach? Which of them do you intend to believe?" "I'll be d——n'd," says Tom, "if I believe either of 'em yet a while, till I see it come out in general orders."

O TELL ME HOW FOR TO WOO.

A Scots song never before publiſhed.

For the Bee.

"O TELL me my bonny young laſsie,
"O tell me how for to woo!
"O tell me bonny sweet laſsie,
"O tell me how for to woo!
"Say man I roose your cheeks like the morning,
"Lips like the roses freſh moisten'd wi' dew!
"Say man I roose your een's pawky scorning,
"O tell me how for to woo.

"Far hae I wander'd to see thee, dear laſsie!
"Far hae I ventur'd acroſs the sa't sea;
"Far hae I travell'd o'er muirland and mountain,
"Houseleſs and weary lay cauld on the lea!
"Ne'er hae I tried yet to mak love to ony,
"For ne'er loe'd I ony till ance I loe'd you;
"Now we're our lane in the greenwood sae bonny,
"O tell me how for to woo!"

'What care I for your wand'ring, young laddie,
'What care I for your croſsing the sea?
'It was nae for naething ye left poor young Peggy,—
'It was for my TOCHER ye came to court me.
'Say, hae ye *gowd* to buſk me ay gawdy,
'*Ribbans*, and *pearlins*, and *breastknots* enew?
'A house that is canty, wi' *walth* in't, my laddie!
'Without this ye never need try for to woo.'

"I hae na gowd to buſk ye ay gawdy,
"I canna' buy ribbans and pearlins enew;
"I've naething to brag o' a house or o' plenty,
"I've little to gi' but a *heart that is true.*
'I came na for *tocher*,—I ne'er heard o' ony,
"I *never* loe'd Peggy,—nor e'er brak my vow;
'I've wander'd, poor fool! for a face fause as bonny;
"I little thought this was the way for to woo!"

'Hae na ye roos'd my cheeks like the morning?
'Hae na ye roos'd my cherry red mou?
'Hae na ye come o'er sea, muir, and mountain?
'What mair Johnny need ye to woo?
'Far hae ye wander'd, I ken, my dear laddie!
'Now ye hae found me, ye've nae cause to rue;
'Wi' health we'll hae plenty,—I'll never gang gawdy;
'I ne'er wiſh'd for mair than a *heart that is true.*

She hid her fair face in her true lover's bosom;
The saft tear o' transport fill'd ilk lover's ee;
The burnie ran sweet by their side as they sabbed,
And sweet sang the mavis aboon on the tree.
He clasp'd her, he prest her, he ca'd her his honey!
And aften he tasted her bonny sweet mou!
And aye 'tween ilk smack she sigh'd to her Johnny,
'O laddie! *weel can ye woo!*'

DELL'ABATE ENRICO TOURNER

FRA GLI ARCADI DI ROMA FILILLO LIPAREO.

OCCHI AZZURRI DIFESI. *Anacreontica* *.

Occhi cerulei
Vaghe pupille,
Occhietti languidi
Luci tranquille,
Che di Calliroe
Splendete in fronte,
Qual gli astri splendono
Su l'orizonte,
Se fia che insipidi
Alcun vi appelli
Occhi cerulei
Occhietti belli,
I vostri teneri
Sguardi amorosi
Per lui si facciano
Torvi, e sdegnosi,
E da la gemina
Splendente face
Veggendo sorgere
E guerra, e pace;
Quanto sfavillano
Ei dica poi
L'ardenti, e vivide
Scintille in voi.
Se prima a l'etere
Un guardo ei gira,
Quindi, o Calliroe,
Tue luci mira,
Vedrà che ugualiano
Nel lor colore
Le lievi, e splendide
Vesti de l'ore.

Allor che placido
Nettuno appare
Sovra le tremule
Onde del mare;
Il mar ceruleo
L'onde tranquille
Le vostre imitano
Vaghe pupille.
La bella Doride
Le Dee marine
Anch' esse vantano
Luci azzurrine,
E ardenti Scoccano
Da le pupille
Dardi che accendono
Di lor faville
I Dei che scorrono
A cento, a cento
L'onde del liquido
Vasto elemento.
Tu pur, Calliroe,
Dai languid' occhi
D'amor le fervide
Saette scocchi,
E le cerulee
Pupille vaghe
Ne l'alma imprimono
Profonde piaghe.
E pur insipidi
Fia chi v'appelli
Occhi cerulei,
Occhietti belli?

* *Anacreontic by Abbé Tourner, of the Society of Arcadia in Rome, and teacher of languages in Edinburgh.*

In a short time the Editor hopes to be favoured by the same hand with an account of the Society of Arcadia, which has produced a great revolution in the taste for literature in Italy.

Giusto è che i teneri
Sguardi amorosi.
Per lui si facciano
Torvi, e sdegnosi.
La casta Pallade
La saggia Dea
Gli occhi cerulei
Anch' essa avea;
E pur la ferono
I numi in terra
Maestra, ed arbitra
Di pace, e guerra;
E il crin or cingesi
D' oliva amica,
Or tratta intrepida
Asta e lorica:
Or l' alme nobili
De' dotti accende,
Armata d' Egida
Nel campo or scende;
E pur insipidi
Fia chi v' appelli
Occhi cerulei
Occhietti belli?
Sai tu, o Calliroe,
Ciò che farai,
Se alcuno insipidi
Chiama i tuoi rai?
Invola a Pallade
E impugna ardita
L' orribil Egida
Angui-crinita;
E allor che mormora
Gl' iniqui accenti
Farai che mutolo
Sasso diventi.

A good translation is requested.

TO LOVE AND CHARITY.

From regions of immortal bliss above,
Impart thy genial emanations, Love!
And when Faith and Hope shall fade,
When heaven's portals are display'd,
When, with transports vast and new,
Things ineffable we view
Then (religion's source and aim)
Charity shall fan the flame;
Love divine shall be our theme,
Love—eternal and supreme!
This—this alone our constant heav'n shall prove,
The God of heav'n in everlasting love!

AN EPIGRAM.

Said to be written by the unfortunate G. Barrington, on the Duke of Richmond having inscribed his family vault with the title of DOMUS ULTIMA.

Did he who thus inscrib'd this wall,
Not read or not believe saint Paul?
Who says there is, where'er it stands,
Another house not made with hands.
Or shall we gather from these words,
That house is not a House of Lords?

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS AND LITERATURE IN DENMARK.

While so many other potentates are disturbing the peace of nations by war and intrigues, the prince of Denmark, (who has for some years past taken the lead in the business of the cabinet,) is continually occupied in promoting domestic improvements and encouraging literary pursuits.

This prince had no sooner taken his seat at the council-board, in the year 1784, than he bestowed a particular attention to the lower classes of the people, and has been ever since eager to redress those grievances which the weak in every country are too much subjected to by the influence of the powerful. He was very soon sensible of the inestimable benefits that in this respect may be derived from the liberty of the press, and has therefore taken care that no severe restraints should be put upon that, the only sure corrector of abuses. The nobles, who felt their power in danger of being curtailed by that means, did not fail to endeavour to persuade him to put the press under restraints, and artfully insinuated that the character of his highness had been treated with too much freedom in certain pamphlets; but instead of being irritated at this, as they expected, he calmly replied, that he was sorry that any thing in his behaviour should have given occasion for animadversion; though if it had, he thought himself more obliged to those who pointed it out to his notice than to those who endeavoured to prevent him from observing and correcting his errors. If the strictures were just, they would thus prove beneficial to him, if they were groundless they would soon be disregarded. He therefore left no other corrector of the press but the judges of the land,

who were sufficient to correct any flagrant abuses of that important privilege *.

His royal highneſs is a warm patroniser of literature, and the court of Denmark has done more within a few years past than any other perhaps in Europe, if the revenues of the crown be taken into the account. There is at Copenhagen a Royal Society, on the same plan with that of London, for promoting general literature; but there are two others there equally important, whose objects being more circumscribed, are perhaps productive of still greater benefits to the community; one of those is for illustrating the Scandinavian history, and the other for the promotion of Icelandic literature.

It is a curious trait in the literary history of Europe, that for many ages, while the more benign parts of Europe were involved in the darkest ignorance, polite literature was cultivated to an eminent degree in Iceland. This is not a conjectural aſsertion, destitute of proof, like what has been often repeated concerning the great learning of the ancient Iriſh sennachies, and the civilized manners of the monks of *Iona*; for there are still extant many *sagas* or histories, written in the Icelandic language, some of which, under the auspices of the prince of Denmark, have lately been publiſhed in an elegant quarto-form, by the care of M. de Schum, with the Icelandic text on the one page, and a Latin translation of it on the other. Eight volumes of these histories have already reached this country, and the work goes forward till the whole shall be published. What an example for the other potentates of Europe!

The prince of Denmark is a spirited young man, and therefore is not inattentive to the army, whose discipline

* I learn, however, notwithstanding what my ingenious correspondent here insinuates, that some restraints have been of late laid upon the preſs; which prevent the people from discuſsing political questions with as much freedom as in some other places. *Edit.*

he is extremely careful to preserve. But neither literature nor military parade attract his attention so much as to make him neglect the more important concerns of agriculture, manufactures, and trade, the only true sources of national prosperity. In these his laudable pursuits he has been supported by some of the principal men in the kingdom, who have had sense enough to perceive that their own prosperity depended on the welfare of the people under them, and spirit enough to promote that welfare, in spite of those bars that avarice and ignorance have thrown in their way. The peasants of Denmark, like those of most of the northern countries of Europe, were like, till very lately, a sort of vegetative production of the soil, from which they could on no account be removed without the permission of their lord. Some enlightened spirits there, however, perceiving the indolence that this kind of slavery produced among the people, and sensible of many other evils originating from the same source, were desirous of restoring the people to those rights which alone could render them active and useful citizens to the state, and therefore resolved to emancipate their own people, to serve as an example to others. Count Bernstorff, prime minister of Denmark, had the honour of taking the lead in this generous and patriotic enterprise. He, and count Christian Ditlef Reventlow, assisted by Mr Christian Colbiornsen, the attorney-general, have at length effected that glorious enterprise, though not without great difficulty. But the struggle is now over, and a foundation is thus laid for the prosperity of Denmark, the fruits of which will be enjoyed by future ages.

The minds of the people in Denmark were nearly as much agitated by the prospect of this emancipation, as are those of the proprietors of our West India islands at present by the prospect of the proposed abolition of the slave trade. The

evil appeared to be of such magnitude, that a great body of the nobility entered into a combination to oppose this dangerous reform, which they conceived affected their interest and privileges in so eminent a degree. An action was brought by these noblemen against Mr Colbiornsen before the high court of chancery, on account of his proceedings and advice relative to the abolition of this species of feudal tyranny. The matter was fully investigated, and after hearing parties at great length, it was proved, to the satisfaction of the court, that the interest of the nation required the emancipation of the peasants. A decree was therefore issued, by which the rights of the peasants are now fully recognised, and their protectors honourably acquitted. By this decree every landholder or proprietor of land is strictly required to accept of a fixed sum as a commutation for all the feudal services. These services were before unsettled, uncertain, and arbitrary, they are now to be commuted into money, and so fixed as to prevent all further dispute between the parties. Thus is a foundation laid in Denmark for a freedom similar to that which we have long enjoyed in Britain, and which has thrown an energy into all our enterprises that is scarcely to be found in any other nation. As Poland has adopted the same general system, it is to be hoped that Europe in a few years will rise to a still greater degree of eminence than has hitherto been known on the globe.

The views of the prince of Denmark, and his worthy counsellors, have not been confined to those objects only that are just now enumerated; not only do they lay before the public the literary treasures of their country, that have been locked up in their archives for so many ages,—not only do they, by emancipating the peasants, give energy to their bodily exertions, and by the liberty of the press allow their minds to exert their utmost power with freedom,—

they have also broken down those barriers to trade which a spirit of monopoly had reared up with a view to oppress one half the natives of these dominions. The trade to Finmark and Iceland has been, for many years past, like our trade to the East Indies, monopolised by a company of merchants, who had the sole and exclusive privilege of supplying the wants of these people, and of purchasing the commodities they had to sell. The consequence has been, that the people of those countries have thus been depressed to an astonishing degree, their industry repressed, and of course their population greatly diminished. The royal revenue from these regions was almost annihilated; and though some of the servants of the company picked up a comfortable subsistence, the company itself has from time to time become bankrupt, *as ever happens to companies of this sort.* The enlightened ministers above named, perceived these evils, and marked the mischievous consequences that must result to the nation at large from a longer continuance of this absurd system of management. This destructive monopoly of trade, has therefore been abolished, and it is now open on the terms specified in the note below *. The trade to Iceland was laid open at the same

* 1. Persons of every persuasion established on the tenets of the Christian religion, shall have a right to settle in Finmark, and enjoy perfect liberty of worship.

2. Every inhabitant, of whatever sect of the christian religion he be, shall have a right to buy lands, to whatever extent he pleases.

3. Every citizen shall be exempted from all taxes and duties payable to government, during the term of twenty years.

4. The new settlers shall moreover be free from the duty of 4 *per cent.* payable on capitals laid out on interest, and the use of stamps.

5. The town established in Finmark, and its inhabitants, shall, for the space of twenty years, be exempted from all customs and excise, spirituous liquors only excepted, which shall pay one shilling *per* gallon, and collected by the custom-house officers, shall be appropriated to the public benefit of the new settlements.

6. In the same manner, the export of home productions is free during the course of twenty years.

time, and put under similar regulations. The effects of this new regulation are well expressed in the following extract of a letter from a gentleman in Copenhagen who takes a near interest in the prosperity of Iceland.

7. Upon the same principles goods, and cargoes of every description, imported from foreign parts, in order to be again exported, shall be free from duty, notwithstanding they have been imported in foreign bottoms.

8. The ground which is necessary for the establishment of a new town shall be purchased at the public expence, in case it be private property; but if it belong to the crown, it shall be given gratis, to the new settlers. In both cases an exact survey and a legal conveyance shall be made.

9. The new settlers are moreover entitled to the support of government with regard to building materials.

10. The grounds which have been surveyed, and conveyed to a new settler, shall be his sacred property for ever, unless it be not occupied with a building belonging to him in the space of two years next following; under that circumstance the ground returns to the crown, and may be given to another.

11. Every person, whether native or foreigner, applying to the grand bailiff of the country, shall receive gratis, a certificate of being received a citizen, after having taken the oath of allegiance.

12. A foreigner who thus settles in one of the new towns, shall immediately enjoy the same rights and privileges which belong to a native of Finmark, and after the end of six years next following, he and his posterity shall be considered as entitled to all the rights which belong to a native of either kingdom.

13. Every new settler has liberty and right to leave the country whenever he pleases without paying any fine, and without respect to the length or shortness of his residence in the country.

14. A new settler may make use of any trade he chooses, without a licence, except that of distilling spirituous liquors, and keeping a public house, for in both these cases an application must be made to the grand bailiff.

15. Handicrafts, whether natives or foreigners, will be encouraged, in the most effectual manner, by the chamber of finance.

16. Every person, therefore, shall have full liberty to exercise his trade and business as master, and his apprentices, having served their time, shall enjoy all the privileges which belong to the same trade in that town, wherein he may settle at a future period.

"The trade of Iceland is now very brisk, we only want new settlers, enlarged with ideas unknown to a barbarous people. I say barbarous, for so these Icelanders are at present, relative to every knowledge useful to society. Psalms, hymns, prayers, sermons, are no where found in a greater plenty than in Iceland; and yet the people grow not a bit the wiser. How? the trade brisk, and the people ignorant and wretched! As if the golden gifts of

17. It is expressly enacted, that no corporation shall be permitted to take place in any of these new settlements.

18. A new settler or citizen shall receive an annual premium of one rix dollar, or four shillings *per* ton, on every vessel his property, laid up in any of the Finmark harbours during the winter.

19 Every citizen, being enrolled as a merchant, shall have liberty, equal with any other merchant in the king's dominions, to use his trade both with the natives or foreigners, whether they are Swedes or Russians.

20. All imports and exports to and from Finmark, shall go through the new towns.

21. Those citizens who are retail traders shall have liberty to order their commodities from whatever place they may please in the king's dominions.

22. Citizens only shall have liberty to sell foreign goods in their markets.

23. Those of the citizens who engage in the fisheries, shall enjoy the same privileges which have been granted to the other citizens of the two kingdoms, and they shall be entitled to a premium of fifteen rix dollars, or L. 3. *per* ton, for every ship not exceeding five hundred and ninety tons, they may fit out for the whale fishery under Spitzbergen, and the parts adjacent.

24. The same laws of exchange which are prescribed in the Norwegian code of law, shall be observed in Finmark.

25. The government is lodged in the hands of the grand bailiff of Finmark, who besides shall have the power of deciding all matters relating to the customs.

26. But justice shall be administered within the new settlements, by the justice of peace residing in the town of Hammersfelt, till the said new settlement can arrive at such a degree of maturity as may enable them to appoint their own magistrate.

27. And then shall the community obtain their own seal, after having made an application to his majesty for that purpose.

Mercury did not spread blessings every where? I beg your pardon for a paradox borrowed from the Hudson's Bay Company, and many others. However, the difference is very great between the Esquimaux and my countrymen. The first are savages from time immemorial, but the latter have the honour, if honour it can be called, to have fallen from the most civilized state of society, and be reduced to the most abject abyss of ignorance and wretched pride. For amidst all their feelings and sentiments of poverty, they find an ample consolation in their noble pedigrees, and antiquity of their forgotten origin; and so continue to lead a life indolent, and industriously idle. Would to heaven that the pious labours of the prince royal, and his friends, the counts Bernstorff, Reventlow, Mr Colbiornsen, and his excellency the privy counsellor Bulow, may never suffer the least abatement in their vigour, but continue firm and intrepid! I wish Iceland may get some new colonies from Scotland; they will live well I am sure in a country where land sells almost for nothing, and the provisions are exceedingly cheap. They would be kindly received by the natives as their countrymen, for the Icelanders pride themselves on being descended from the ancient Scots, and they still preserve some of the arts that are lost in Britain*.

* The sira of the Icelanders is certainly the very same thing with the *blanda* of Buchanan, which he thus describes, lib. 1. c. 33. *Serum lactis aliquot annos servatum in conviviis etiam avide bibunt. Id potionis genus blandium appellant. Major pars aqua sitim sedat.* This is evidently the sira, of which our Icelanders are now so very fond, a particular description of which follows:

RECEIPT TO MAKE SIRA, AN ICELANDIC DISH.

Run milk, press the curd slightly, and run off the whey. Put the curd in a barrel stopped up, and now and then let out the air. After eighteen months keeping, it is fit for use. A few spoonfuls of it, at a time, are to be mixed with common milk or whey.

In Iceland, whey is also put in casks, where it is suffered to ferment, is drank after being six months barrelled.

Being thus sure of a kind reception, what riches could they not obtain, by prudent management, from the unbounded fisheries round the island; from the salmon fisheries, which, though inexhaustible, have not as yet turned to any advantage, and the lucrative breed of sheep and cattle which are not attended to, notwithstanding Iceland abounds with the finest pastures *. There were times when this *ulima Thule* exported in her own bottoms her own manufactures and cloth, stockings and carpets, to Norway, Ireland, and the northern parts of Scotland, Denmark, Sweden and Russia; and the laws passed in the eleventh century prove that agriculture was well attended to. Things have indeed taken a sad revulsion since that period; however, by the joint labours of wise and benevolent men, the causes of such grievances will I trust be removed, and this long neglected spot be made to resume once more a splendour greater even than it formerly possessed."

Such are the warm terms on which this beneficent correspondent talks of the improvements in Iceland. To those who have only casually visited that island in its present state, and are not acquainted with the particulars of its past history, these particulars will no doubt appear to be greatly exaggerated; yet the present state of Spain, of Palestine, of Egypt, of Greece, and of Turkey, are so much inferior to what they once were, as to afford the clearest proof that political mismanagement can produce effects equally pernicious as those that have occurred in Iceland.

The first is represented by Mr Professor Thorkelin, a native of Iceland, as being a most refreshing sort of food for the fishers and others, after the most violent exercise and fatigue. The other as a wholesome, pleasent beveridge,

They sometimes put salmon and cod-fish bones into the sira, which adds to its quality.

* The natives of Scotland, to their sad experience, know that similar *natural* advantages at home, do not ensure prosperity. *Edit.*

It will afford a subject of curious disquisition to the English reader, to trace the history of this northern nation which has been sunk in utter oblivion for so many ages; and I congratulate the public on the near prospect of their being enabled to do this in a satisfactory manner. Dr Thorkelin, a native of Iceland, professor of antiquities in the university of Copenhagen, a gentleman well known in Britain for several ingenious publications in the English language, who accompanied Mr Dempster in his tour through the Hebrides, in the year 1786, has been commanded, as I am assured from undoubted authority, by the prince of Denmark, to publish an account of his travels in Scotland. In this work he will have an opportunity of reviving the memory of the mutual intercourse that subsisted between this country and Iceland, in former times, and of illustrating the history of these northern people, by many facts that are very little known. I shall not fail to announce this interesting work to the public, as soon as it appears.

A character of the prince of Denmark by another correspondent from Copenhagen, will be given in our next.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The favour of *A. N.* is received. No subject can be more generally interesting than chemical inquiries when conducted with propriety;—witness Watson's essays; but long systematic treatises would not be so generally relished. A course of chemical observations tending to perfect arts and manufactures, would be one of the most useful as well as entertaining performances that could be given. Should this ingenious correspondent direct his views to these points, his disquisitions will be highly acceptable. Perhaps, medical, and pharmaceutical remarks ought to be sparingly introduced, as this work is calculated for general, not particularly for medical readers.

The remarks of *preceptor* are well founded, but they are too long. If this gentleman were to try to cut out every thought, and every word that could be spared, he would make a much more interesting paper. This is recommended to him as an exercise which he will find redound to his own profit.

The Editor regrets that the verses by *W. S.* are too defective for publication. A *constant reader* is received.

Farther acknowledgements deferred till our next.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16. 1792.

REMARKS ON THE CHARACTER AND WRITINGS OF *WILLIAM DRUMMOND OF HAWTHORNDEN.*

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

PINKERTON, a man whom the Scots are pleased to dislike because he tells them truths disagreeably, has judiciously proposed that the poems of Hawthornden should be reprinted with due selections.

I beg leave to second Mr Pinkerton's motion. I greatly and fondly cherish the memory of Hawthornden. I like his character, his muse, and his residence; moreover I like his companions; for I doat upon Ben Johnson, and I esteem Drayton. There are few lords now like lord Stirling. He admired and honoured Drummond, and cherished his friendship and correspondence in the depth of retirement, when the peer was basking in the sun-shine of Whitehall, and warm in the prosecution of his trans-Atlantic projects.

Among all the poets of the beginning of the last century, (writes the author of the Cursory Remarks

on some of the ancient Engliſh poets, said to be Mr le Neve) there is not one, after Shakespeare, whom a general reader of the Engliſh poetry of that age will regard with so much and so deserved attention as William Drummond. He was born at Hawthornden, near Edinburgh, in 1585, and was the son of Sir John Drummond, descended of the family of Stobhall, who, for ten or twelve years, was uſher, and afterwards knight of the black rod to king James I. of England. The poet was educated at Edinburgh, where he took the degree of master of arts in the year 1606, and was afterward sent by his father to study civil law at Bourges in France; but having no taste for the profeſsion of a lawyer, he returned to Hawthornden, and there applied himself with great aſsiduity to claſsical learning and poetry.

Having courted a daughter of Cunningham of Barnes, whom he celebrates in his poems, and to whom her accompliſhments, congeniality of taste, and propensity to retirement, had strongly attached him,—he was succeſsful in his addreſses, and a day was fixed for their marriage.

Soon after ſhe was seized by an illneſs which proved fatal, upon which Drummond again quitted his native country, and resided eight years on the continent, chiefly at Rome and Paris.

In the year 1630 he married Margaret Logan of Restalrig, by whom he had several children, the eldest of whom, William, was knighted by king Charles II*. He spent very little time in England,

* The heireſs general of Hawthornden was married to Dr Abernethy a non-juring biſhop in Scotland, of the ancient family of Abernethy of Sal-

though he corresponded frequently with Drayton and Ben Johnson; the latter of whom had so great a respect for his abilities, and so ardent a desire to see him, that at the age of forty-five he walked to Hawthornden to visit him.

The favourite seat of Ben Johnson, in the sequestered wood of Hawthornden, is yet known, and pointed out to visitors, where a bust of Johnson ought to be placed, to gratify the sentimental devotion of the admirers of exalted merit.

This would add something spiritual to the strawberry feasts of Roslin, and be worthy of a precious few in that wonderful little country that produced a Drummond and a Thomson.

Ben Johnson's father too was a Scot; and it is fit that *he* should be honoured in the land of his fathers.

Hawthornden is a lovely spot. The house hangs like an eagle's nest on the romantic banks of Esk. The ground is classic. The genius of his plaintive sonnets meets the fancy of the congenial soul. Here he addressed his Alexis, (lord Stirling:)

Tho' I have twice been at the doors of death,
And twice found shut those gates which ever mourn;
This but a light'ning is,—a truce to breathe;
For late-born sorrows augur fleet return.
Amid thy sacred cares, and courtly toils,
Alexis! when thou shalt hear wand'ring fame
Tell, death hath triumph'd o'er my mortal spoils,
And that on earth I am but a sad name;
If thou e'er held me dear, by all our love,
By all that bliss, those joys heav'n here us gave,
I conjure you, and by the maids of Jove,
To 'grave this short remembrance on my grave:
Here Damon lies, whose songs did sometimes grace
The murmuring Esk.—May roses shade the place!

town, who presented the whole remaining manuscripts of the poet to the earl of Buchan, who deposited them in the museum of the Antiquarian Society at Edinburgh.

Let us inquire for the venerable spot in which were placed the ashes of Hawthornden, and let these lines be sculptured on the belly of a lyre, that they may meet the eye of the traveller. Why should not this little speck of earth of ours, so near to Iceland, be warmed with something that may supply the want of better skies!

Ben Johnson, too, ought to be characterised by a suitable inscription on his seat, that the offended dignity of his name in Westminster abbey may be worthily retrieved. O rare Ben Johnson! is an exclamation that admits too much an application to him who could only set the table in a roar, and too little to the superior merit of Ben Johnson. Hear what the great lord Clarendon says of him: "Ben Johnson's name can never be forgotten, having, by his very good learning, *and the severity of his nature and manners*, reformed the Stage; and indeed the English poetry itself. His natural advantages were, judgement to order and govern fancy, rather than excess of fancy,—his productions being slow, and upon deliberation, yet then abounding with great wit and fancy; and they will live accordingly. And surely as he did exceedingly exalt the English language in eloquence, propriety, and masculine expressions; so he was the best judge of, and fittest to prescribe rules to poetry and poets, of any man who had lived with, or before him, or since, if Mr Cowley had not made a flight beyond all men, with that modesty, however, as to ascribe much of this to the example and learning of Ben Johnson." His conversation was very good, and with men of most note; and he had for many years an

extraordinary kindness for Mr Hyde*, till he found he betook himself to business, which he thought ought never to be preferred before his company.

Drummond loved Drayton, and a great and continued friendship subsisted between them, fanned by frequent letters, as appears by his papers, which were presented to the earl of Buchan by the reverend Dr Abernethy Drummond, already mentioned.

> Drayton, sweet ancient bard! his Albion sung,
> With their own praise her echoing vallies rung;
> His bound'ng muse o'er ev'ry mountain rode,
> And ev'ry river warbled where he flow'd†.

I have a copy of Latin verses addressed as I suppose to Drayton by Hawthornden, as it is in the hand-writing of the latter, and was found in a bundle of Drayton's letters to Drummond:

> Dum tua melliflui specto pigmenta libelli
> Pendet ab eloquio mens mei rapta tuo,
> At sensum expendens tumque alæ pondera mentis
> Sensus ab eximio me rapit eloquio;
> Sed mage dædaleo miror te pectore qui sic
> Cogis ad Italicos anglica verba modos.
> Eloquium, sensus, mentis vis dædala longe
> Tollit humo ad superos te super astra Deo.

Drummond's family having been grafted as it were on the royal family of Scotland, by the marriage of king Robert III. and upheld by them, he was a steady royalist during the troubles of Charles I.; but does not appear ever to have armed for him. Yet it seems he had been much employed by the king in his uttermost distress, or by those immediately about his person, as among his papers I found a *prima cura* of king Charles 1st's last appeal to the people of England, with corrections and marginal notes, in the

* Earl of Clarendon. † Sea pieces, canto ii. by Mr John Kirkpatrick.

king's own hand-writing *. As Drummond had always been a laborious student, and had applied himself equally to history and politics, as to classical learning, his services were frequently rendered by occasional publications, in which, it must be confessed, he was not so happy as in the flights of his muse, which, as Pinkerton justly observes, amply establish his fame. Phillip's (adds he) who compiled his Theatrum Poetarum *under Milton's own eye*, and may be supposed to express that great writer's opinion, upon many occasions, observes with regret, "the strange neglect into which Drummond's poems had even then fallen. But this was no wonder, when Milton's smaller poems met with the same fate. Now it may be safely said, that if any poems possess a very high degree of that exquisite Doric delicacy, which we so much admire in Comus, and Lycidas, those of Drummond's do. Milton seems to have imitated him, and certainly he had read and admired his works! Drummond was the first who introduced into English that fine Italian vein; and if we had had no Drummond, perhaps we should never have seen the delicacies of Comus, Lycidas, Il Penseroso, L' Allegro. Milton has happened to have justice done him by posterity, while Drummond has been neglected."

From the familiar letters of Drummond, printed in his works, and from those unpublished, it appears, that his most intimate and frequent correspondents, and friends, besides those already mentioned, were

* This affecting paper was deposited in the library of the society of Antiquarians at Edinburgh.

Lord Buchan has the picture Old Stoae painted, of the king at Carisbrook castle.

Arabella, or Annabella, countess of Lothian, daughter of Archibald earl of Argyll, the earl and countess of Perth, Robert Carre earl of Ancram, Dr Arthur Johnstone, physician to the king, author of that admirable piece of humour, *Parerga*, a sketch of whose life and writings I hope may sometime or other make its appearance in this Miscellany, Mr Cunningham of Barnes, and a few other relations.

In a survey of Drummond's poems two considerations must be had—the nation in which he lived, and the times in which he wrote. Yet these will be found, not offered to extenuate faults, but to increase admiration. His thoughts are generally bold and highly poetical; he follows nature, and his verses are delicately harmonious. On the death of Henry prince of Wales in 1612, he wrote an elegy entitled "Tears on the death of Moeliades," a name which that Prince had used in all his challenges of martial sport, as the anagram of "*Miles a Deo.*"—In this piece, according to Denham's epithets to the Thames, are thoughts as strong, as deep, as gentle, and as full, as any of his or Waller's *.

When king James, after his accession to the English throne, returned to Scotland in the year 1617, his arrival was celebrated by every effort of poetical congratulation. Upon this occasion, Drummond composed a panegyrick entitled the Wandering Muses, in which are found four lines apparently imitated by Pope,—"To virgins flowery, *&c* †." Of these two poems, it is observable, that they date earlier than any of Waller's, whose first was that to the king on

* Cursory Remarks, *&c.* † *Vide* Pope's third pastoral.

his navy in 1625. The piece in which Denham's greatest powers are exerted, his Coopers Hill, was not written till the year 1640. The harmony of Drummond, therefore, at a time when those who are usually called the first introducers of a smooth, and poliſhed verſification, had not begun to write, is an honour to Hawthornden that ſhould never be forgotten. His excellence hardly known, cannot be enough acknowledged or praiſed.

Drummond and Petrarcha had this in their fate alike, that each lamented firſt the cruelty and then the loſs of their miſtreſſes; ſo that their ſonnets are alike naturally divided into two claſſes, thoſe after, and thoſe before the deaths of their reſpective ſweethearts. Drummond, in ſeveral of theſe compoſitions, has ſhown much of the genius and ſpirit of the Italian poet. The ſeventh ſonnet, of the firſt part, is much reſembled by Sir Henry Wotton's elegant little poem on the queen of Bohemia:

"Ye meaner beauties, *&c.*

And among Drummond's Flowers of Zion, the poem which begins,

"Amidſt the azure clear of Jordan's ſacred ſtreams,"

eminently diſtinguiſhes him, whether he be conſidered as a philoſopher or as a poet.

His Polemo Meddinia, a burleſque poem, founded on a ridiculous fray in Fife, is written with more than the humour of a Swift, or Peter Pindar; and may afford an excellent modern claſſical amuſement to our nobility and gentry, who cannot bear the *monſtrous bore* of turning over an Ainſworth's *dictionary*, and may ſtill have retained enough of the charming

language of the Scipios, to be able to taste the beauties of the *dunghill sighs*. These slight notices and extracts, I have scattered on the pages of your elegant journal, in the fond hope that they may draw forth the quill of an abler eulogist.

Ille ego qui quondam patriæ perculsus amore,
Civibus oppressis, libertati succurrere ausim,
Hanc arva patria colo fugiosque limina regum.

ALBANICUS.

POSTSCRIPT.

WHAT has been written concerning the person, family, and residence of Drummond, in the account of his writings, may be thought sufficient for Scotland, where such particulars are well known by the public; but considering the deserved celebrity of the poet, and the extensive circulation of this Miscellany, I have thought proper to set down as briefly as possible some circumstances that may deserve the attention of people of taste who visit Scotland, to contemplate its picturesque beauties, and to meditate on the classic footsteps of her illustrious citizens.

Drummond was descended from William Drummond, third son of Sir John Drummond of Drummond, by Mary de Montefex eldest daughter and coheiress of Sir William de Montefex, high justiciary of Scotland. The patriarch of the poet's family married a daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Airth of Airth, in Stirlingshire, with whom he got the barony of Carnoe.

Sir John Drummond, the poet's father, who was second son of Sir Robert Drummond of Carnoe, bought Hawthornden, in the year 1598, from the heirs of

Douglas of Strathbrock, a family which, with many other fair and opulent poſſeſſions, had held Hawthornden for more than two centuries.

The caves of Hawthornden, cut by human art from the rock, are certainly of the most remote antiquity, resembling those in the vicinity of Thebes, and had probably served for the dwellings or faſtneſſes of the aboriginal natives of the country. This conjecture is supported by tradition, and, with the other singularities of the place, gives a sublimity to the scene. Captain Grose, in his antiquities of Scotland, has given a very well chosen view of the sequestered dale or den, and of the house overhanging the romantic rivulet of Eſk.

The reverend Dr Abernethy Drummond, who married the heireſs, as above mentioned, caused to be engraved, on a stone tablet placed over Ben Johnson's seat, an inscription to the memory of his own ancestor, Sir Laurence Abernethy of Hawthornden, and to his wife's relation, the poet; where, if the public or the future proprietors of the place ſhould erect the busts of Drummond and Ben Johnson, they ought to be placed close to each other on the same *therm*.

Dr Abernethy's inscription concludes with the following lines:

O! sacred solitude, divine retreat,
Choice of the prudent, envy of the great,
By these pure streams, or in thy waving ſhade,
I court fair Wisdom, that celestial maid;
There, from the ways of men laid safe aſhore,
I smile to hear the distant tempest roar;
There, blest with health, with buſineſs unperplex'd,
This life I reliſh, and secure the next.

The inscription over the door of the house, engraved by order of the poet, is as follows:

Divino munere Gulielmus
Drummondus Johannis,
Equitis aurati filius
ut honesto otio qui-
esceret sibi et succes-
soribus instauravit.
Anno 1638.

A VOYAGE TO THE HEBRIDES.

Continued from vol. viii. *p.* 286.

Isle of Herries, Loch Tarbet.

THIS loch is now swarming with herrings, which, for want of salt, the people are prevented from catching to the extent they might do; or indeed beyond their own limited consumption. They dry them without salt in their barns, which are of wicker, and eat them in winter by the name of sour herrings: A harsher name would be bestowed upon them any where else. At Scalpa is constructing, under the direction also of captain Macleod, one of the new light-houses, which all allow to be judiciously placed, promising great advantage to the navigation of the Minche, through which all vessels from the southward pass from Liverpool, Bristol, and Glasgow, in their direct course to Norway and the Baltic.

A very obvious remark occurs to every visitor of the Hebrides, *viz.* that fish might be furnished cheaper to Great Britain and the rest of the world, from hence, than almost from any other place; for here, fish come to the very doors of the fishers. At Fort William, sixty or seventy boats are sometimes seen in an evening,

shooting their nets within a pistol shot of the spot where they were launched into the water. By day-light the fishing is over, and the fishers breakfast on the spoil, rest themselves in the forenoon, and pursue their ordinary occupations through the rest of the day. At Cannay, Eriskay, and Loch Bay, the cod and ling are landed, and put to salt on the very day they are caught. The herrings occasionally visit every salt-water loch along the Hebrides, and north-western coast; whereas the Dutch have busses to fit out at a great expence, and a long voyage to make over to the British coast before they wet their nets. The voyage from Great Britain to Newfoundland is surely not less expensive. It is, indeed, said the Swedes, since about the year 1756, have caught herrings near Gottenburgh, with still more facility; and that the annual visit of those fish has been more steady to the neighbourhood of that town, than to any one part of the western coasts of Great Britain; but it is added, they arrive every year later and later at that place, and if this retardment continue much longer, they will arrive when those seas are frozen up, and when it would be impossible to catch them. Till then the Swedes are likely to be the great herring venders to Europe and the West Indies: For the Swedes are industrious; that part of Sweden is very populous; and the fiscal obstructions on the subject of salt, are next to nothing. Two hundred thousand barrels are said to be cured there annually, besides fifty thousand barrels of herring oil. If this be true, the Swedes enjoy the same, or, perhaps, superior advantages to our fishers *for the present*; but

from time immemorial herrings have abounded on our British coasts, in such plenty, that the fishers may be always certain of catching enough for their own supply; and the waste of a few nets and boats may be easily borne even in the less successful years of the fishery.

But how can they convey their fish to market without the expence of larger vessels? Just as they do their kelp. When that article began first to be made here, it was sold to chance buyers as low as 15 s. *per* ton. The makers were glad to take whatever unrivalled buyers offered. The case is now widely altered. Vessels come yearly to this certain kelp market, and the price has risen to L. 5. L. 5. 10 s. and L. 6 *per* ton. Is it to be doubted, that vessels would also come in time to fetch the herrings, so considerable an article of the food of our own people, and so necessary for feeding our West India slaves? Why then has not such a trade been already established? This is a political question, of too long discussion for a journal. The causes may be shortly stated; *first*, though there be some people to catch fish along those coasts, yet they are few, and they are scattered and dispersed, neither collected into towns nor villages. *Secondly*, the industrious people are not free; they must, in general, work for the person in whose land they are settled. Most of them are bound to perform one day's work of this kind every week, or fifty-two days in the year, a sixth part of the year. But if we deduct bad days, on which no work can be performed, the proportion will be found still greater. Salt is very inaccessible,—fish cannot be cured for sale

unleſs the salt be exempted from duty. If exempted from duty for fiſh, numberleſs regulations must be adopted to prevent the abuse of this indulgence. These are so many cobwebs, in which the poor feeble fiſhers are liable to be entangled to their destruction. *Thirdly*, the want of towns, where people might freely settle, is absolutely fatal to industry. Fort William and Stornaway, are the only spots where a freeman could build a house; whereas, lots of this kind ſhould be laid out in every sea loch.—Perhaps nothing has tended more to force emigration than this defect. On our eastern coasts, where improvements in agriculture occasioned joining many small lots into one farm, the ancient occupiers of them betook themselves to towns, and became useful citizens, as artizans and manufacturers; in the Highlands that is impoſsible, because there are no towns. An obvious improvement on the condition of the people, would be that of making all the subtenants tenants to the proprietor, and granting them leases for life; and encouraging them to settle their children round them on the waste lands of their farms. For it is certain there are large tracts of very improveable land in an uncultivated state. This will be obvious on considering the state of the Isle of Sky, which is said to be sixty miles long, and thirty-five broad, and a most beautiful and improveable island, every where intersected by arms of the sea. It may contain six hundred thousand acres. The rents are said to be L 6000 a-year, or about twopence sterling *per* acre.

Through the Highlands and Hebrides, what little ground is cultivated lies near the coasts. This is

divided into very small lots. Along with each lot is annexed a large tract of ground, called a *ſheelling*, or grazing in the interior part of the country. Five hundred acres is no large grazing for a coast-farm, paying L. 5 of rent. The grazing is thus doomed to perpetual sterility, on which cattle pick up a wretched subsistence for a few months in summer. It is inacceſsible for want of roads; and the cattle prevent the growth of natural wood, with which it would otherwise be soon covered. Another great drawback on the Highlands and Hebrides, is want of capital to employ in their improvements. The land in general belongs to rich non-resident proprietors. This carries the rents they annually yield out of the country. The other inhabitants are tacksmen, or gentlemen farmers, and small farmers, mostly subtenants to those tacksmen.

The tacksmen being gentlemen, live as such; and what money they can spare, neceſsarily goes to the education of their children, and placing them out in life, and to the maintenance of widows and aged relations. Besides that, few of them have leases of sufficient indurance to justify expending their capital on improvements. Some leases are for nineteen years, a few longer; but many are let every five or seven years. This is called a *new sett*, when a rise of rent is expected; and when any improvements are made upon the land, or even the dwelling-house, they expose the imprudent tenant to be out-bid by the envy or avarice of his neighbour. As to the small tenant or subtenant, improving his land, the same difficulties and others stand in his way. Here and there some

merchants are to be found, who, if they make rich by their traffic, cannot easily find land to employ their money in improving, as we see done round our towns on the east side of the island. Such is the accounts given of the state of the Highlands and Hebrides. These may be exaggerated, although they seem to be confirmed by the actual state of these countries. Are the people unhappy? That is another question. Do riches constitute happineſs? These inquiries are rather directed to the proſperity of the country than the happineſs of its inhabitants. It is juſtice to them to say they do not seem unhappy. They are contented with their houses such as they are. They diſpense with all kind of furniture except a black cast iron pot. They in general have plenty of fuel; and potatoes and fiſh supply them reasonably well with food. When they have no salt, which is a scarce article, to cure their winter proviſions, they can eat them *sour*. It may be added, that whether proteſtants or papiſts, they seem deeply impreſsed with a religious turn, and attend public worſhip when within reach very pointedly; nor are they leſs diſtinguiſhed by their bravery in war, than by their gentle, kind, and affectionate diſpoſition in time of peace. One cannot help wiſhing such a people had a larger ſhare of what are generally reckoned comforts, liberty, and money. One would wiſh all the inhabitants of a high taxed country like ours, to take a reasonable ſhare of the burdens of the state in time of peace as well as war. The inhabitants of the six northern counties of Scotland, exclusive of the land-tax, pay about the seventy-fifth part of a penny yearly, one

with another, in other taxes; and it is fully as much as they can afford;—they are computed to be four hundred thousand in number. The great proprietors, from the extent of their property, and the number of their people, may be considered as so many princes. Quere, would it not be of advantage to themselves, to give the inhabitants a constitution, a Magna Charta, to secure them, in the absence of the proprietor, in the enjoyment of some privileges? Their lands might be measured and valued, and the tenants secured for a term of years in their poſſeſſions, as long as they paid the rent punctually; revolutions to take place at stated periods: All personal services might be aboliſhed; a baillie might be appointed to preside over the justice of each barony, and settle disputes among the tenants by jury. Is there any thing in our law to prevent a baron baillie summoning a jury of the tenants, letting them try causes through the whole extent of his jurisdiction, instead of trying them himself, and adopting the verdict of the jury as his own decree? The people are so far removed from the county courts, as not to be able to attend them, but at a great expence of time and money.

It is a good custom some great proprietors in the south of Scotland adopt, particularly the late duke of Queenſbury, to name two or three friends to act as his commiſsioners, and with salaries for their trouble. Nothing would afford greater protection to tenants in the proprietor's absence.

To be continued.

LITERARY NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

YOU may perhaps not be displeased to insert a little of our arctic news in your Bee, in that case it is possible we may occasionally supply you with a few articles.

Mr Heland, the Swedish *directeur œconomique* at Tornea, on the arctic circle, who has, for a number of years, made careful and accurate observations on the tides, atmosphere, magnetic needle, *&c.* proposes to leave his house and small estate to a succession of observators, who will be obliged, in lieu of rent, to continue his observations, and transmit the result to to the Academy of Sciences, who are left executors of this singular but liberal will. The baron Turbé, the Sardinian envoy at this court, from whom I had this information, says, that, on a tour he made some time ago to these northern regions, he found in every room of Mr Heland's house, a sort of wooden thermometer, suspended horizontally like a vane of a ship, within a few inches of the ceiling, consisting of a long narrow thin slip of fir, which, by bending to one side or other, marked changes of the atmosphere on a graduated semicircle, painted on the ceiling immediately above it. I hinted to the baron that it was probably rather a hygrometer, of the nature of the mahogany one suggested by Dr Franklin in the second volume of the American Philosophical Transactions, although it would be difficult I think to account for the semicircular motion of the fir instru-

ment on the doctor's principle. I likewise suggested that it might be hung by a twisted catgut; but was aſsured that it was firmly held in a slit piece of iron or nail, driven into the ceiling, and that it pointed out the *temperature*, not the *humidity* of the atmosphere; and that he did not remark any other kind of thermometer in the whole house.

If any of your correspondents are acquainted with this instrument, they will probably be so kind as to give some description of it, until we can get farther information upon what promises to be of such general use, from its cheapneſs and simple construction, if it ſhould be found to indicate changes in the atmosphere with any degree of exactneſs.

Code, the Japanese merchant mentioned by Cox and Lisippe, the French consul, in his journey from Kamtchatka, was brought down last winter by counsellor Laxmann, his protector and friend, inspector of the Siberian foſsils, who resides at Irkutſk, and remained with us a few months. I had frequently an opportunity of seeing him, both at the lodgings of that able mineralogist, and at the house of our celebrated naturalist, Dr Pallas. He is a little, tight, well made man, with lank black hair, tied behind, a Spaniſh complexion, and quick black eyes. His dreſs was European in Petersburgh; as what he could have saved from the wreck of his ſhip must long ago have been worn out. We were all surprised at the degree of knowledge he poſseſsed, considering his line of life and country; for example, in the hot house of my friend Pallas, he pointed out to us the plants that were natives of his island; and I found him always employed

at home (Mr Laxmann's) in making out charts of his country, particularly of the district from which he sailed.

These were much in the stile of the Chinese*. He had saved from the wreck a couple of books; one he said was a sort of historic and geographic work, the other on religion. He spoke the Ruſsian language to make him be understood, and seemed all that Lisippe describes him, for gentleneſs of character and manners; in ſhort his whole pleasure, when at home, seemed to lie in his pipe, books, and charts. Her imperial majesty has ordered him to be carried home at her expence, in a veſsel fitted out at Ohotſk, and Mr Laxmann's son is to accompany him, and to see him safe to Japan. You know the cause of the uncommon phenomenon of seeing a Japanese in Petersburgh, as his misfortunes have been told in different languages, and most certainly in Engliſh. He sailed from Japan, in a veſsel of which he was proprietor, loaded fortunately with rice to supply himself and crew with food, during the incredible time his veſsel was the sport of the winds without a rudder, before he was ſhipwrecked on one of the Fox islands, where he dwelt long with the Ruſsians, till brought to Kamtchatka. Since his entrance into the empire, he has resided chiefly with Mr Laxmann at Irkutſk, together with his remaining crew, one of which only was here with him. During this visit of Mr Laxmann, I received, amongst some other curious foſsils, mostly his own discoveries in Siberia, a specimen of green jade, transparent in thin pieces,

* Are any of these charts preserved? Could a copy of them be got I ſhould deem it a particular favour to have one. *Edit.*

which Mr Laxmann afsures me is, or was employed in lieu of iron, by all the inhabitants of the Pacific ocean, before supplied with that useful metal by the circumnavigators. He said the Tchutſke likewise had their arms and utensils made of it, before they were supplied by the Ruſsians, and that still every man carries a piece, of it about him as a whetstone or hone. This must be what was erroneously termed green talc in the voyages of our navigators, a stone much too soft for such purposes, although of the same genus *.

As to the Kamtchatka expedition, conducted by our countryman Billings, little can be said till the result of the whole be given to Europe by the command of her imperial majesty.

In the mean time the public are acquainted with the failure of the first object proposed, *viz.* to make a tour by land or water from the mouth of the Kuluma round the Tchutſkoi Noſs to Kamtchatka. By sea, the same icy barrier which prevented the further advancement of the great and intrepid navigator Cook, in one direction, equally prevented that of his pupil Billings in another; nor was the practicability of surveying the coast by land found leſs difficult than by sea; so that, after ascertaining the longitude and latitude of a few places, he proceeded to execute the second part of his instructions, *viz.* to proceed by sea on a voyage of discovery, by the old beaten track, with two veſsels built at Ohotſk, one of which he had the misfortune to lose on setting out, on the Kamtchatka coast, and was obli-

* I have seen several specimens of the same stone instruments brought from the south seas, and agree with my correspondent in thinking it cannot with any degree of propriety be called talc. *Edit.*

ged to make his cruise alone, from which he returned last year, and is supposed to have sailed again this year; he may posibly build another consort in place of the one lost, on the continent of America, where wood proper for the purpose is so plentiful.

Since the publication of the valuable voyages and maps of captain Cook, and his able assistants, a chart has been given in Russia of these seas, coasts, &c. so well surveyed by that great seaman, wherever he could penetrate. The principal changes I have remarked, are, that the island captain Cook called Clerk's, and the Russians, Sind's, from the first discoverers, is not one, but a group of islands, composed of one great, and five small; a circumstance which the British navigator's course and distance did not permit him to ascertain. The other principal differences between the Russian and British charts are, that part of the coast of America, forming a triangle, bounded on Cook's maps by Point Banks, Cape Grenville, and Cape Trinity, is an island, named by the Russians Kihtak, separated from the continent by navigable straits, affording good harbours in their course. The Russians not only assert that they had a place of trade at Kihtak (discovered to be an island by Imuloff whom Cook saw at Alaska,) but that they saw from their station his vessel pass by, when he first surveyed it, and that their trade is, and was, carried on with a people called Kenai, who came down Cook's river for that purpose.

If this be admitted, it will account in a much easier and shorter manner for the iron, and European beads found with the people of that part of the coast of

America, than the long course of barter by which our navigators supposed they might be passed from tribe to tribe, from Hudson's bay or the Spanish settlements then known. ARCTICUS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IN A work which tends, in so ample a manner, to diffuse useful and entertaining instruction, to inspire with a desire to investigate nature; and, under your impartial and discriminating management, to promote the expanse of genius, I beg you would insert, for the entertainment of the curious and the speculation of the philosopher, the following singular instance of antinatural affection I may call it, which very lately occurred, and which can be well authenticated, and oblige, Sir,

Your humble servant and reader,

PATRICIUS.

A FRIEND of mine who enters into the researches of nature with activity, happened very lately to be paying a visit to a gentleman of independent fortune and respectability in a neighbouring county to Ayr, when, among other subjects of a like nature that were introduced, several instances of uncommon affection, manifested by animals of the brute creation, towards others of a different species, were enumerated; and, among the rest, the extraordinary instance of a cat (which belonged to the gentleman of the house,) extending its maternal care to a poor solitary chicken, which having, by mistake, been placed along with

some duck eggs, had, agreeably to nature, made its appearance in the world a considerable time before its companions; and as the cat had formerly given proofs of, I may say, a kind of philanthropic disposition, had been intrusted to its care. When my friend was there, the chicken was about a fortnight old; and had been nursed with a great deal of tenderneſs and care by its affectionate foster mother. Whenever it manifested an inclination to go out to feed, or again to benefit by the genial heat ſhe afforded, ſhe immediately put her body in the most favourable posture. This must appear very extraordinary, when we consider that a cat is, by nature, of all animals the most sullen and deceitful; and is poſſeſsed of an inherent enmity to all the feathered tribe. It will be difficult to account for so many different principles actuating the same animal. Can we suppose that that noble chivalry, that generous sensibility, talked of with such rapture by that profound orator Mr Burke, but is now, alas! lost to France, after having been neglected, or discarded by mankind, can be extending itself to animals of an inferior nature; or, that the words of the scripture are likely to be fulfilled, and that the age is approaching when the lamb will be found along with the wolf, and the wolf with the lamb? This is certainly an improving age.

DETACHED REMARK.

It must be confeſsed, that to embelliſh the form of nature is at least an innocent amusement; and some praise is due to him that does his best endeavours o join pleasure with profit.

THE WAIL OF ELVINA. AN ODE.

For the Bee.

WHAT time the ſoft ey'd ſtar of eve
Gleam'd on the gently trembling wave,
From Bara's isle the ſighing gale
Waſted Elvina's rueful wail:
Forlorn, her lovely locks ſhe tore,
And pour'd her ſorrows on the deſart ſhore.

'Ye rocks,' ſhe cried, 'ye ſhelving caves,
'Whose sides the briny billow laves;
'Ye cliffs far frowning o'er the deep,
'Ye lonesome isles,—to you I weep;
'Far distant from my father's halls,
'The tow'rs of Moran and my native walls.

'O Moran are thy warriors fled!
'Dismal and dark their narrow bed;
'Silent they sleep,—the north wind, cold,
'Blows dreary o'er their crumbling mold;
'Silent they sleep, no dawning day
'Visits the grave, or wakes their ſhrouded clay.

At dead of night a cry was heard,
'O why was Moran unprepar'd!
'No watchman on the caſtle wall,
'No wakeful warrior in the hall;
'At dead of night the crafty foe
'Ruſh'd from the main, and struck the vengeful blow

'To arms! cried Moran, but in vain!
'I saw my warlike brothers ſlain!
'I saw my father's bosom gor'd;
'By Cadwal's num'rous host o'erpow'r'd
'He fell; and from the guſhing wound,
'Reeking and red, his life blood stream'd around.

'Mingling with smoke I saw the fire
'Along the rending walls aspire;
'Now rage impetuous in the hall,
'(I heard the craſhing rafters fall!)
'Now o'er the roof and turrets high,
'It blazes fierce and furious to the ſky!

'O spare a helpleſs maiden, spare;
'The orphan's piteous pleadings hear!
'They bore me thence.—My streaming eyes
'Beheld these awful cliffs arise:
'Foul raviſher!—Ye rocks, ye waves,
'O save me, hide me in your lonely caves!

'Foul raviſher!—yet pale dismay
'And vengeance mark thee for their prey!
'Unnerv'd, appall'd by conscious fear,
'Remorse ſhall drive thee to despair;
'My spirit, wailing in the blast,
'Shall ſhake the counsels of thy guilty breast.'

'Twas thus ſhe wail'd,—till, by degrees,
The voice came broken in the breeze:
The seaman, piteous of her woe,
Turn'd to the ſhore his friendly prow;
But long, alas! ere dawn of day,
The voice grew weak, and feebly died away.

A. L.

SONNET.

SOFT as the dew drop to the vernal rose,
Is tender pity to the aching heart;
Ev'n while the bitter tide of sorrow flows,
Friendſhip a balmy cordial can impart,
If not to heal, to mitigate the smart.

But who is he, regardleſs of distreſs,
Who views the tear, and hears unmov'd the sigh;
Who uses lawleſs powers to oppreſs?
His name I rightly deem is CRUELTY:
May innocence from him by instinct fly!

For does the butcher's harden'd heart relent
At the mild bleatings of the patient lamb?
Or the fierce wolf his bloody feast prevent,
At the dumb anguiſh of the trembling dam?

TO PEACE.

CELESTIAL Peace! from thy abode descend,
And all the habitable world befriend.
No more let nation, fill'd with 'vengeful ire,
'Gainst nation rise, with ravaging desire;
Let troublous Discord haste, with rapid flight,
To the dark regions of eternal night.

A CHARACTER OF THE PRINCE OF DENMARK.

Continued from p. 40.

THE above is the substance of several communications from an ingenious correspondent at Copenhagen. But as it is always satisfactory to hear different opinions on the same subject, I subjoin with pleasure the following character of the prince of Denmark, drawn by another gentleman in the capital of Denmark.

'For the liberty we enjoy we are entirely indebted to our prince royal, who I can, with the greatest justice, call a free born Engliſhman. I do not give you his character from mere report, but as I have found it to be. He is sincere, steady, and free; not raſh in promising, but scrupulously attentive to perform what he has once said. In transacting buſineſs he is candid and open,—hears with attention,—is not fond of too much elocution, but wiſhes to have free and candid diſcuſsion, and directly to the point in hand. His hour of audience is five o'clock in the afternoon. In one word, the prince royal of Denmark is a character that would ſhine in private life. As a prince, his time is spent for the public good; and the enormous expences that other princes of Europe heap daily upon their subjects are by him spared. He is a pattern of œconomy to his subjects, and appears to me to model after the late king of Pruſsia. Since he came to act in government, which was in 1784, he has done more than the most sanguine could have expected, and which is only the ground work of what in future may be hoped for. The alterations neceſsary in Denmark were so great and numerous, that precaution, patience, and steady perseverance alone, could effect them. These he began when he was in a manner a child, and in that line he has steadily perse-

vered. What may not therefore be hoped from him, when his judgement is thoroughly ripened by experience?

'The prince is an early riser. In the morning he goes on the parade, after which, if business permit, he either walks or rides out. The court sits down to dine at two o'clock, all is over by four, and, if not too long detained in the audience chamber, he goes twice a week to the play-house. His majesty is generally there Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays. The play is commonly finished by nine o'clock, except on particular occasions,—all is hush in the palace by eleven o'clock.

'Count Bernstorff, as minister for foreign affairs, is well known all over Europe, for his knowledge and perspicuity in doing business. Count Schimmelman, finance minister, has perhaps the most arduous task to perform of any man in Denmark. The finances of this country, from a series of events, which would be tedious to repeat, and uninteresting to your readers, have been long in disorder. The revenues, though sufficient, have not been applied to effective purposes. Hence the crown has been obliged to contract foreign debts. When disorder happens at the fountain, the branches cannot be free. If we suppose, therefore, that before the prince royal took an active part in the government, that these evils '*had increased, were increasing, and ought to be diminished,*' is it to be wondered at, that Count Schimmelman, who was at that time called to be finance minister, should become an object of public raillery. Those who derived no emoluments from the abuses, think he has done too little, while those who profited by them, think he has done a great deal too much. An angel in that situation could not have escaped reproach. His task was a most difficult one to perform; and there are circumstances that have rendered the task still more difficult, which I shall explain at another time.

'Count Reventlow is an able assistant to the finance minister, though in a different department. He is a man of a clear judgement and steady application. It is to him in part we owe the new regulations respecting the boors, which do honour to his feelings as a man, and his judgement as a minister.

'The arts, manufactures, and trade, have been deemed below the notice of gentlemen in Denmark. Agriculture must of course share the same fate. It is, however, with pleasure I inform you, there is an appearance of a happy alteration in favour of these useful, and hitherto neglected professions. A superficial education has been the only accomplishment of a gentleman. To talk French, German, a little English,—to be able to dance gracefully, and play at cards, were all the requisites necessary. To be acquainted with mankind, to know themselves, their own, or any other country, absolute folly. People of quality supposed those under them an inferior kind of beings, created for their purposes. The change which is daily observable in these opinions, originates with the prince royal, whose opinion appears to be, that *actions*, not *rank*, dignify the character.'

Thus far my ingenious correspondent, whose farther remarks on that country shall be reserved till another occasion. May this prince be preserved from the hands of the assassin, and long be spared to add to the happiness of his people, and the prosperity of his country!

ANECDOTE.

AN American loyalist, who had been asked to purchase a ticket for general Burgoyne's benefit, at one of the theatres in London—replied—'I have paid enough for his *sword in America*,—and am determined to give nothing for his *pen in England*.'

AUTHENTIC ADVICES FROM SYDNEY COVE, NEW SOUTH WALES.

Being an extract of a letter obligingly communicated to the Editor by a gentleman of eminence in Britain.

March 24. 1791.

'IN my last to you, by way of Batavia, I endeavoured to inform you of our wretched situation here; and acquainted you, that we had unanimously resolved to lengthen out the scanty remains of our provision, by our united exertions, in gardening, fishing, *&c.* By the diligent use of such means, we did not despair of being able to hold out until the supply should return from Batavia.

'But we had dropped all thoughts of receiving any relief from England for some considerable time; as we judged such ships as might have sailed for this port were unfortunately lost.

'Our savings in the public store were but very small from all we could do, but still we continued chearful, and determined to persevere.

'We were preparing to commemorate the birth day of our royal master, with his excellency the governor, when, about three in the afternoon, of the 3d of June, the flag, at the entrance of the harbour, was displayed, as a signal for a sail in sight; and in the evening of the same day the ship Lady Juliana came safely to an anchor in the lower part of the harbour.

'The glad tidings were soon communicated through our little town, and received with great joy and gratitude. And our pleasure was increased from the assurance given us of his majesty's perfect recovery, from a late alarming, and almost fatal illness.

'A day of thanksgiving to God for his happy recovery was ordered to be given here; and an address was drawn

up, to which we almost all signed our names, and presented it to the governor to be forwarded to England.

'We are now informed that his majesty's ship Guardian had struck an island of ice on her passage hither, and with the utmost difficulty returned back to the Cape of Good Hope, with the loss of some lives, all the cattle, and the greatest part of both public and private property.

'This unfortunate accident, which happened in December 1789, confirmed our suspicions of some mischance intervening, and reducing us to the severe distresses which we suffered.

'The Lady Juliana had on board two hundred and twenty-five female convicts, with two years provisions for them only. So that, saving the good tidings of other ships being forwarded in their passage here, we had little to expect from any relief she could give us. They were remarkably healthy throughout the voyage, most likely from the judicious plan of affording them tea, sugar, and soap, with frequent refreshments by the way. Cleanliness and comforts ought to be attended to rigidly on a passage so distant and dangerous as this is, as many lives will certainly be sacrificed.

'We were entertaining ourselves with the abundance of news which had transpired, and anticipating the arrival of supplies, which we were given to understand could not be far distant, when, on Sunday the 20th of June, the Justinian of London, arrived safe in the cove, after a passage of five months, only, loaded with provisions for the settlement.

'This seasonable relief brought us full allowance, and dispelled that gloom, and fear of famine, which had been likely to visit us.

'By this ship, we learned, that part of a corps, raised for the service of this country, were forward on their passage,

in three transports, having on board a considerable body of convicts. And that the major commandant would ſhortly follow in his majesty's ſhip, Gorgon, with the remaining part of the troops.

'The marines, who are to be relieved by the new corps, feel great satisfaction at the prospect of getting home; but they are surprised to hear, that the cause of their being relieved is attributed to disagreements among the officers.

'That very unpleasant differences have taken place between their commandant and the governor, we are all well aware of. Who is right, or who wrong, will certainly hereafter be made known. But it is a grievous hardſhip, that unconcerned individuals ſhould, by misrepresentation, be involved in such affairs, or be deprived of that merit which is so dearly bought by their services in this country.

'Much credit is due to Mr Maitland, the master of the Justinian, for his expedition on the voyage, which he aſsured us would have been completed in four months, but for the untoward and boisterous weather he met with on this coast.

'This ſhip was followed by the Surprise, on the 26th of June, and by the Neptune, and Scarborough transports, on the 29th, all of them after a paſsage of little more than five months.

'The Neptune embarked two officers of the troops, and forty-two soldiers, four hundred and thirty-three male convicts, seventy-eight females, six convicts wives, free women, and thirteen children. They lost on the paſsage one hundred and sixty-two, and landed two hundred and sixty-nine sick at the hospital.

'The Surprise had on board two officers and thirty-eight troops, one of whom died on the paſsage, and two hundred

and fifty-two male convicts, forty-two of whom died on the paſsage, and one hundred and twenty-six were landed at the hospital.

'The Scarborough had two officers, and thirty-four ſoldiers, and two hundred and fifty-six male convicts, ſixty-eight of whom died on the paſsage, and ninety-six were landed ſick at the hospital. And in ſpite of every effort to relieve the afflicted, one hundred and twenty-four of them have ſince fallen victims to diſeaſe.

'It was ſhocking to behold the deplorable condition to which the poor wretches were reduced by dyſentery and ſcurvy. The liberal ſupply of hoſpital ſtores enabled us to aſsiſt them with ſome comforts as well as medicines. But the miſerable ſtate to which they had been reduced, by perpetual confinement below, throughout the paſsage, put it beyond the power of art to reſtore many of them.

'The ſole direction of them on board was left to the maſters of tranſports, who, either from inclination, or a want of knowledge, denied them thoſe indulgences which might have been a mean of preſerving their health, or at leaſt of preventing ſo great a mortality.

'The Juſtinian and Surpriſe were ordered to be cleared as faſt as poſsible, that they might carry a ſupply of ſtores, and an additional number of people, to Norfolk iſland. We entertained many doubts with reſpect to their ſituation at that place; and, unfortunately for us, we had no proſpect of making ourſelves acquainted with their ſtate before the return of the ſupply from Batavia, as the ſhips, on clearing at that part, were to proceed immediately to China.

'I ſhall not attempt to deſcribe the confuſion that exiſted at that time in our colony.

'The governor now perceived the neceſsity of providing habitations for the people that had diſembarked, as well as thoſe that were expected ſoon to follow. For the little conveniences that had been raiſed, chiefly at the ex-

pence and labours of the first colonists, were every where crowded by the new comers, both bond and free. And it was said that no houses could be considered as the private property of any individual on the settlement.

'Our new guests expreſsed great concern at not finding every thing here in a very prosperous state; they had been led to believe that matters were in a very fair train, and that plenty of conveniences were ready for their reception at landing; but they found quite the contrary to be the case.

'His excellency has ordered a town to be erected as fast as poſsible at Rosehill, and has employed all the artificers on that duty. They have already got up about an hundred huts, of one story, twenty-five feet long, by twelve broad each. The streets are to be two hundred feet wide*, and each hut is to be furniſhed with some garden ground backwards. Upon the whole, the plan seems to be made the most regular of any yet laid down at this place.

'Since the arrival of ſhips, the following terms have been offered to settlers, *viz.*

'To every non-commiſsioned officer, an allotment of one hundred and thirty acres of land if single; and of one hundred and sixty acres if married.

'To every private soldier, an allotment of eighty acres if single, and of one hundred if married. And an allotment of ten acres of land to every child of such non-commiſsioned officer, or private soldier, as may choose to settle. Such allotments to be free of all fees, taxes, quit-rents, and other acknowledgements, for the space of ten years, but after the expiration of that time, to be liable to an annual quit-rent of one ſhilling for every fifty acres.

'His majesty has likewise willed that a bounty of three pounds *per* man be offered to each non-commiſsioned officer

* How will the grass be prevented from growing in them? *Edit.*

or private man, who may be disposed to continue in this country, and inlist in the corps appointed for the service of New South Wales. And ſhould their behaviour be good, they ſhall, after a farther service of five years, be entitled to a double proportion of land, that would be granted them, provided they quit the service, at the relief of the marines, free of all taxes, fees, quit-rents, *&c.* for the space of fifteen years, subject, however, after that time, to the same acknowledgements as before.

'His majesty has also willed, as a farther encouragement to the above description of men, that, upon their being discharged or relieved, or after a farther service of five years in the new corps, they ſhall receive, out of the public stores, a proportion of clothing for one year, together with a suitable proportion of seeds and grain for the tillage of land, and a proportion of tools and implements proper for their use, for that time. And when any of them can feed and clothe such a number of convicts as may be judged neceſsary for their use, for the time being, to aſsist them in clearing and cultivating the land, the service of such convicts ſhall be aſsigned to them.

'No proposal has been made to any of the officers, civil, or military, nor do I hear that any of those to whom they have been made, have as yet resolved on accepting them.

'The country, from all we have yet been able to obſerve, is not by any means favourable to our wiſhes. Some of the free men, who are considered as judges in farming, report the land at Roſehill to be light and sandy, and equal to such as would be let for fifteen ſhillings an acre, within three miles of Lewes in Suſsex; but at a distance from a market town not above half as much. And, on making a calculation of the average price of land about High Wycomb, in Bucks, they find, by three or four thouſand acres, that it lets, on an average, at 19*s.* and 6*d.*

per acre, not more. The tenant, besides, pays the church and poor rates; the poor rates amount to about 1s. and 6d. the church to about 8s. in the pound; this land is much better than the average land about Rosehill.

'These circumstances, added to the scarcity of fresh water, want of cattle, and the proper means of agriculture, together with the bad returns that have as yet been obtained from the different crops, are, I think prognostics, that very little advantage can be obtained from this country; or that it can maintain its new inhabitants, within a great length of time, and without a very great expence to the nation.

'The return of grain this season from Rosehill, which is the only farm in cultivation for the public, has not, from all I can learn, been more than threefold and an half; if so much; perhaps in some measure owing to the very great drought which has prevailed this season.

'But it is feared little can be expected from it at best; for the farmer, on the part of government, says he sowed forty-five bushels of wheat in maiden land, at that place last year, and reaped six or sevenfold only. He expected a much better return this season, from the ground being longer opened, but is disappointed; and he has since declared, that very little can be expected in future, unless cattle can be procured sufficient to manure it. Two hundred and ninety-three acres of land are now cleared of the timber at Rosehill, but the roots are all left in the ground; a circumstance that must prevent the labouring of the land by any other means than that of the spade, or hoe, until they are removed; which is a work I fear cannot be accomplished.

'The coast has not as yet been examined by us farther to the southward than Botany Bay, or to the northward, than Broken Bay. But several excursions have been made into the country by some of the officers, whose judgement

may be depended upon. They all agree in thinking it unfit for almost any purpose. They have for the most part found it rugged and unkindly, and complain of a very great scarcity of water. What they have met with is generally contained in stagnant ponds; which seem to be reservoirs for rain water. Sometimes there is a continuation of these for a little distance; and after very heavy rains they frequently communicate with each other; and then send forth a stream through some of the adjacent vallies, which ceases to run shortly after the rain has ceased to fall.

'It is impossible to tell what could have occasioned the description of Botany Bay that appears in the voyages of captain Cook. The meadow land, after the most minute investigation, is found to be nothing but a perfect quagmire. In short so totally different is it from what has been said of it, that, had it not been for the latitude, and longitude, which are accurately laid down, we should not have known the place, from the account given of it.

'Of Norfolk island I can only speak from hearsay. The return of the supply from Batavia has given us a late opportunity of knowing something of their state at that place, which we find to have been much worse than ours before the ships arrived.

'And had they not been fortunate enough to save the greatest part of the provisions from the wreck of the Sirius, they would have been left with not more than six weeks provisions at the utmost, to subsist upon.

'The soil at that place is said to be good, and the climate a healthy one. But both the wood, and the flag, which were so much spoken of, are neither of them objects of much consideration. The flag grows only on points jutting out to the sea, and the pine tree, as it is called, is found to be so brittle as to render it unfit for masts, and many other purposes.

'Besides, the neceſsity of clearing the island for the maintenance of its inhabitants, precludes a poſsibility of applying more of the timber than now stands to any public purpose, or of cultivating a sufficient quantity of the flag plant to be of any service.

'But to what purpose retain a spot situated in the middle of the ocean, and at such a distance from England, when it is seldom poſsible for any veſsel to approach it in safety, from the dreadful surf which in general laſhes its ſhore; where there is no kind of ſhelter for even a boat, nor any place of anchorage to be depended upon; and in fine, whose utmost extent does not exceed five miles in length and three in breadth?

'In addition to the wreck of the Sirius, and former loſses which have happened there, a boat, unloading one of the transports, with seven people, was destroyed in the preſence of the inhabitants, who had it not in their power to give them any aſsistance, although within a few yards of the spot—so suddenly did the surf get up.

'Three years have elapsed, in January last, since our arrival in this country, and saving a chance meal, the chief of our diet has been salt meat, and that sometimes in very reduced quantities.

'The state we were in when the dispatches went from this place in the Supply, sternly threatens us again; there being no more than seven months provision now in store, at the present allowance, which must, in the course of a month, if no ſhips arrive, be reduced to two-thirds, and ſhortly after that to one half, (or perhaps leſs,) if no relief appear.

'We have little to look to from our granaries; and the live stock, which consists of goats, pigs, and poultry, are so degenerate, and few in number, from want of food, that the whole would not afford the colony two days subsistence.

'What can have become of the Gorgon with major Grose and the rest of the troops, baffles all conjectures; the detachment under captain Nepean, have been here now eight months, in daily expectation of their arrival. I am afraid it is our fate to be very unfortunate.

'The new corps seem to have come out without being well acquainted with their situation at this place; it is said they are to pay threepence *per* day for their ration, and to have no spirits allowed them; if so, their case is pitiable.

'It is probable government does not intend to continue the allowance of spirits any longer, for except a three months proportion which has lately been served, there has not been any issued for eight months past. The soldiers feel the want of that article very much, as they live but poorly, and have been long accustomed to the use of it.

'Much cannot be said respecting the natives; their wretched manner of life is a proof, among the many others, of the wretchedness of their country. They have lately been persuaded to trust themselves amongst us, and their desire for food, without being at the trouble of collecting it, has induced them to continue their intercourse.

'Previous however to this connection, his excellency, from reposing too great confidence in them, had nearly lost his life by a wound from one of their spears, and his game-keeper has since been killed by one of them, at Botany Bay. These are, I think, the only accidents that have happened lately, and I think it is likely our attention to them will be the means of preventing any happening in future.

'Five convicts, who had previously furnished themselves with a few provisions and necessaries, made their escape from this place in a small open boat. We apprehend their

intention was to reach some of the East India islands; but they were, upon the whole, so badly appointed, that it is very improbable they could have survived long.

'Detaining and punishing the convicts for attempting to get away, after their terms of transportation have expired, has occasioned much murmuring and discontent among them, and will, no doubt, impel them to attempt their liberty, however dismal or distant the prospect of obtaining it may be.

'I send this by Mr Morgan, surgeon of his majesty's ship Sirius, who returns to England in the Dutch vessel that brought us a little better than two months provisions from Batavia. He is a young gentleman of approved character and merit.

'If you condescend to receive this, and give him a hearing, you will receive a very just account of our situation in this colony.

'Much also may be expected from captain Hunter, whose virtue and integrity is as conspicuous as his merit; and his officers, who are for the most part men of respectable characters, can, from real experience, describe the steril territory of New South Wales.'

TO CORSESPONDENTS.

THE verses by *E. T. O.* are received. It is with regret the Editor finds himself unable to insert one half of the pieces with which he is favoured; and he fears that, on account of the number and importance of his prose communications, he will be under the necessity rather of curtailing than of augmenting the limits appropriated to poetry. May he once more request of his poetical correspondents to try always to perfect their pieces into *gems*. It is in this way only they can insure their insertion.

The verses by *Al.* are received and under consideration.

*** *Acknowledgements to other correspondents, in absence of the Editor, deferred.*

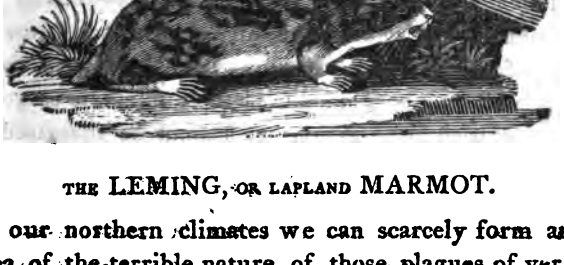
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23. 1792.



THE LEMING, OR LAPLAND MARMOT.

IN our northern climates we can scarcely form an idea of the terrible nature of those plagues of vermin which distreſsed Egypt; but in warm climates, the ravages committed by insects and vermin are well known, and terrible. Whole countries have been often laid desolate by locusts! not a green thing left for the subsistence of man or other animals; and extensive regions are totally uninhabitable by reason of the swarms of flies which there abound. With us, rats and mice sometimes become a little troublesome; but, compared with the vermin of warm climates, these would be accounted nothing. The *leming* is the only animal in cold regions, which is ever

known to produce ravages, that can in any respect be compared with those of the torrid zone.

This surprising animal is found only in the northern parts of Europe and Asia. It is sometimes seen in Norway, Sweden, and Lapland, bursting forth from its concealed retreats, like a mountain torrent surmounting its banks by a thunder ſhower, and overspreading a vast extent of country, carrying ruin and desolation wherever it goes. Fortunately its appearance is only periodical, and not very frequent, or these regions, which in other respects are inhospitable to man, must have been totally abandoned by him. As the retreats where they inhabit for ordinary, and where they breed, have not hitherto been fully explored by any naturalist, and as their irruptions are so sudden, and their numbers so great as to exceed imagination, we cannot be surprised at the ignorant natives seriously believing that they are generated in the clouds; from whence it has been supposed they are poured down in ſhowers of rain. Myriads of them march together; and, like a torrent which nothing can resist, their course is marked with ruin and desolation;—neither fire nor water prevent their progreſs. They go streight forward, in regular lines, about three feet asunder, and generally in a south-east direction. They swim acroſs lakes and rivers,—no opposition impedes them. If thousands are destroyed, thousands supply their places,—the void is quickly filled up, and their number does not appear to be diminiſhed. They persist in their course, in spite of every obstacle; and, if prevented from proceeding, they either by aſsiduity surmount it, or die in the attempt. Their march is

mostly in the night. They rest during the day, and devour every root and vegetable they can meet with. They infect the very herbage; and cattle are said to periſh, that feed upon the graſs they have touched.

An enemy so numerous and so destructive, would soon render the country they paſs through utterly uninhabitable, did it not fortunately happen, that the same rapacity that excites them to lay waste the productions of the earth, at last impels them to destroy one another. Having nothing more to subsist on, they are said to separate into two armies, which engage with the most deadly hatred, and continue fighting and devouring each other till they are all entirely destroyed. Thousands of them have been found dead; and the air, infected by their putrid carcases, has sometimes been the occasion of malignant distempers. Great numbers of them are likewise destroyed by foxes, lynxes, weasels, and other beasts of prey, which follow them during their march.

The leming is somewhat leſs than the rat; its head is pointed; and in each jaw are two very long cutting teeth, with which it bites keenly; its ears are ſhort, eyes small, legs slender, and those before ſhorter than the hind; the colour of the head, black and tawny, disposed in irregular patches; the belly, white, tinged with yellow; it runs very swiftly.—Fortunately none of them have ever been seen in Britain; and as it never becomes an intimate with man, like the rat, our insular situation will prevent us from ever experiencing the scourge of this diminutive ravager.

Though perfectly disgusting to other people, its fleſh is said to be eaten by the Laplanders. Probably

necessity has taught them this lesson, in the same way that the inhabitants of some southern countries have been constrained to feed upon locusts themselves, after these had eaten up all their other provisions.

Where these numerous tribes of animals are bred and collected, as has been already said, is not certainly known. Linnæus says they are produced among the Norwegian and Lapland Alps; and Pontoppidan supposes that Kolin's rock, which divides Nordland from Sweden, is their native place. But wherever they come from, none return. Their course is predestinated; and they pursue their fate.

Such is the best account that can as yet be obtained of this singular animal: Probably, as its natural history comes to be better known, some abatement may be made from the marvellous part of it. Though, as it attracted the attention of the great Linnæus, we must rest satisfied that the leading traits of this account are just.

*** It is proposed, in the course of this work, to give, from time to time, accounts of the most remarkable objects that occur in the walk of natural history, accompanied with figures of such as are uncommon, executed by that ingenious artist, Bewick of Newcastle.

ON MANUFACTURES.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR, *Banks of the Tay, March* 3. 1792.

I HAVE long been desirous that the rapid progress that vice and dissipation have of late years made in this

country, by means of the great spread of *manufactures*, had, in some very particular manner attracted the attention, and engaged the pens of your correspondents, as your respectable publication is so well fitted to convey useful information through so many quarters of the world.

It was with particular pleasure, that, under date of February twelvemonth, I read some very judicious observations on this subject by one of your correspondents, in an attempt to shew the advantages accruing to the country at large, to private families, and even to individuals, from the general extension of *agriculture*, well conducted, and properly supported. I sincerely wish him success in his laudable endeavours to put his fellow citizens on their guard against their so *generally* going into the present rage for *manufactures*, pointing out to them the pernicious tendency of too ardent a pursuit after riches, honours, and pleasure, by their means, and, to a large body of them, opening an avenue that leads to health and real happiness.

No person in his right senses will question the necessity of calling forth the industry of their country; but the danger seems to arise from the giving that industry too much one direction. On their first appearance, manufactures assume a pleasing and a smiling show; but as they move on, they collect the profligate, the daring, and the licentious, till at last, in an *advanced stage*, they present to the more innocent spectators, a spectacle hideous, alarming, and dangerous. Perhaps the happiest period of any civilized country, is, when its industry is assiduously

distributed among the labourers, artizans, merchants, and all other profeſsions useful to society; and when it is thought, that, to attain preferment and respect in life, requires an attention to those studies that dignify human nature, and a dedication of a greater length of time to acquire them, than is, in our present manufacturing state of society, thought neceſsary in *general* to bestow. Education may certainly be considered as the source of the greatest benefits to society as well as to individuals, as the earliest impreſsions determine the character of man, and operate with good or bad effect the rest of his life. Whatever, therefore, operates so as to ſhorten too much that neceſsary and useful period of time that is spent in acquiring virtuous instruction, or has a tendency to corrupt education itself, is certainly, in the most alarming degree, hostile to the interests and happineſs of mankind.—A too extended manufacture, by giving too early employment to children of both sexes, of the middling, as well as in the common rank of life, takes them off too soon, or altogether, from their schools, where they not only acquired neceſsary informations, but likewise their habits of order and subordination, which they naturally carried into the world with them, with good effects to themselves and society.

This state of *manufacture*, too, has a certain tendency to corrupt the young mind, as the first objects which it presents to the growing paſsions are *fortune* and *greatneſs;* and young people, seeing these obtain *but too much* the incense and homage of their parents, and those around them, the consequence is,

they either neglect the virtues, or overlook them, to elevate themselves to these objects. The more that manufactures extend themselves, the more they throw society into an unnatural state, by collecting them into too large bodies; and as admittance into these bodies is rather to be attained by *ingenuity* or *dexterity* in some particular manufacture, than by any test of moral character, or mental acquirements, by this means, the worthless are mixed with the young of *both* sexes, who, being without the advantages of an early education, offer them but too easy means of debauching, or, by their example, of spreading vicious infection through the whole body.

Manufactures, it is true, bring into society, by means of diffusing money, a great number of rich individuals; but the pity is, that *bad* and *mean* men increase in riches as fast as good men; and *their* riches will be employed too often for the purposes of seduction, gross gratification, and frivolous amusements: We see that, by means of a neglected education, and a loose state of society, they will find a field but too readily prepared for them to indulge in every vice. The more money there is diffused, the more the passions are extended, and the more furious they grow, till at last a certain foundation is laid for future misery and wretchedness, by the sure introduction of vice under every form,—profligacy, drunkenness, debility and disease.

The limits of your publication confine me to view my subject as it affects the education and morals of youth, from *facts* falling under my own observation; the subject is certainly big with importance, and in-

vites to the most interesting discussion!—Is it possible for the manufacturing character to prevail among a people, but with the general diminution of virtue? or may the line of manufacture be carried as far as it will go, and effectual means be devised to counteract the many *evils* growing out of it, so detrimental to that morality which is the support of the society we live in? To observe the great body of a people, uniting in the eager pursuit of riches, honour, and pleasure, by means of an over-extended manufacture, though at the expence of almost every virtue, would make a peevish philosopher decide unfavourably for human nature, though, I imagine, unjustly. The progress of manufactures being gradual, their effects on morals are seldom of a direct nature; and, by that means, they often fail to give to many concerned in them, that alarm for the diminution of many virtues that are natural to the human heart. The evil, at some time, must correct itself,—the bow, when strained too much, must break at last. Would it not then be best to stop at some point? or at any rate to set about applying remedies to the existing evils they have already occasioned; and in some more effectual manner than has ever yet been practised, endeavour to prevent the new evils they daily threaten us with?

A CITIZEN*.

* Nothing can be more just than the pertinent observations of this very sensible correspondent. In all sublunary affairs, there is a mixture of good and evil to be found; and it is those alone who are unacquainted with the world who look for unbounded prosperity, without expecting that it will be attended with corresponding abatements. Energy of mind, when accompanied with virtuous dispositions, constitutes, as I should suppose, the highest exaltation of the human character; but in most cases the

A VOYAGE TO THE HEBRIDES.

Continued from p. 57.

JULY 22. Slept on board and sailed in the the morning through the sound of Scalpa,—becalmed within eight leagues of Stornaway;—visited in Seaforth's boat Loch Shell, a beautiful small sea loch in Lewes, with good land around it;—a good station for a fishery; took some large sythe, called lord-fish, as big as salmon; the bait cuttle-fish, at which the sythe were seen to dart voraciously ten or twelve fathoms deep in the sea. Slept at sea.

July 23. Reached Stornaway by ten o'clock in the morning. This harbour is very fine and spacious, inclosed within a safe bay, reaching a mile or two within the land. A good many trading vessels at anchor off the town. Landed at a commo-

very circumstances that tend to inspire the mind with energetic ardour, have as necessary a tendency to engender vice. The prospect of wealth and independence inspire energy, though possession of these, alas! but too often corrupt the heart. To collect young people together, at an early period of life, to assist in the lighter operations of manufactures, frees their parents of a burden which tends to promote this prosperity; but in these circumstances one vicious person, like a little leaven in the dough, contaminates the whole mass. Perhaps it is impossible in these circumstances to expect to preserve that singleness of heart, that innocence, that purity of manners, which has so long been characteristic of the lower ranks of people in Scotland. While they were bred up in the solitary retreats of a country retirement, they were poor, but virtuous. They will now, it is to be feared, become rich, or at least debauched and vicious. It would be a happy discovery if a plan could be devised for uniting the blessings of wealth and industry, with the virtues of poverty; but this, I fear, can only be expected in the kingdom of UTOPIA. *Edit*

dious quay, guns firing, colours displayed, with all the honours the proprietor could confer on the committee. The town well laid out and clean. There are about fifty houses with blue slate roofs, and many other good houses, though not quite so elegantly built and covered. The part occupied by the fishers, who are numerous and industrious, is about a quarter of a mile up in the country, behind the town, and, with the town, contains nearly 2000 inhabitants. It has a custom-house and post office; a packet sails to the main land and returns once a fortnight. Pooleu on the main land, is the place to which it conveys passengers, goods, and letters. This may be about forty miles north and west from Inverness. A small brook runs on the west side of the town, supplying the inhabitants with water, its banks form a good washing ground, and separates the town from the fields belonging to Seaforth lodge, where the company were, during their stay, magnificently entertained by its proprietor.

Nothing can surpass the beauty of the situation of this lodge. It is placed on an eminence fronting south, from whence it commands a fine prospect of the bay, shipping, harbour, and town. It is surrounded by some well cultivated fields of rich grass and corn. Round the town, to a certain extent, the country is also well cultivated, and wears a very smiling appearance. Seaforth has laid out several new streets, and encourages new settlers both in town and country. The lots for houses are about 900 square yards, fifteen in front, and sixty deep; feu duty 16 s. 8 d. yearly. New settlers in the country have some acres

of waste land assigned them, for which they pay only one shilling yearly for the first seven years, but nothing fixed beyond that period. They land daily there from other places, bringing the wood of their former houses along with them, hut themselves and families very fast, and in a few years convert the land into cultivated fields, and make themselves very comfortable habitations.

Whoever sees the exertions of these poor people, will hesitate ever after to give his assent to the general character given to the Highlanders, of their being a lazy race of people. In the southern counties, where they come to work, they are more industrious than the people they come among. Would they not be so at home with proper encouragement? They seem remarkably qualified for making waste land fertile, and surely need not go from home for want of employment. There are about fifteen decked vessels belong to Stornaway, besides boats and small craft. Seaforth sent out two boats with small nets which brought in some of the finest herrings in high season. Ten or twelve different kinds of fish, excellent poultry, fine mutton and beef at table, with a large company of the principal inhabitants of the town.

At some distance, north from the town, is Broad Bay, where there is a great fishing of salmon, and of salmon trout; and an inexhaustible quantity of shelly sand for improving the ground. No lime-stone discovered on the island; but Seaforth has some stalactitic substances, which argue the presence of that mineral, if well searched for; there is also some appearance of blue slate. Seaforth has begun a road

acroſs the island, from Stornaway to the western side, which is represented to be naturally the most fertile part of it. The island is not disjoined by the sea from Herries; they form one island. Seaforth's end of it may be about thirty miles long and ten broad, at an average. The southern end is very mountainous, and reserved for a forest, which abounds with red deer: The rest of the island is by no means mountainous. It consists of hills of a moderate height, covered with moſs and heath. The interior parts are annexed as grazings to the small corn farms on the west side; and of course produce little or nothing to the tenants or proprietor. Such indeed is the effect of building towns, that the town of Stornaway, and the lands about two miles round it, are said to yield a rent to the proprietor greater than all the rest of the island. About 17,000 score of dog-fiſh are annually caught by the inhabitants of this island; these yield near to L. 800 worth of oil. The fiſh is dried without salt in the stacks of corn, and sold as food for the people at 4 d. *per* score; it is said not to be a bad fiſh. Mr Gillanders *junior*, ſhewed us a large quantity of very fine, well dried, salted cod, in his magazine, fit for exportation. The fiſhers deliver the cod at a certain price, of which they are aſsured in the beginning of the season. The merchant takes his chance of their sale in the foreign markets;—saw some otter ſkins in the ſhops here, worth from 10 s. to 18 s. each.

It is generally said the seasons are leſs rainy in the Hebrides than on the mai. land, to the westward. This is more particularly true, as to the flatter islands

of North and South Uist, and Benbecula, so far as we learnt. The winters there, and on the western coasts of Scotland, are mild, and always fair, with a northerly wind,—little or no snow lies—the frosts are seldom long or severe. The spring cold, and the summers, until about the middle of August, not exceſsively rainy. From that period the autumnal rains set in, and continue almost without interruption, always endangering the corn, and frequently destroying it; some of the barley, however, is saved before these rains begin; and some preserved by the alacrity and talents of the Highlanders, in weather which would ruin our crops. Their barns are of wicker; into these they carry their corn before it be quite dry; the air finding acceſs prevents the corn from spoiling. The duke of Argyll's barn at Inverary, is about 300 feet long, supported on wooden posts, the floor is raised six or seven feet above the ground; between the floor and the ground the hay is carried as soon as cut, and there it is turned over till dry, and then stacked. The corn is carried into the barn in the same condition; each ſheaf is hung upon a separate peg. The barn is full of latticed wooden windows which admit of the air freely. This may be offered as a perfect model for a west country barn. The expence would soon be saved by the preservation of the produce of the farms, otherwise exposed to the greatest danger.

While at Stornaway, the committee held several boards on the object of their miſsion, heard many well founded grievances, on the subject of salt, custom-house clearances, and absurd regulations of the

buſs herring fiſheries, which can only be remedied in parliament, where the feeble voice of the sufferers can scarcely be heard, amidst the din of more interesting political bustlers. Mr Morison arrived in his herring buſs, from Tenera in Lochbroom; and Mr Shaw with his, from Dunvegan in the isle of Sky. Their errand was to clear out at the custom-house of Stornaway for the fiſhery; a voyage which exposes them to great inconveniency, as a foul wind may detain them in port till the swarms of herring have left their coasts. Mr Morison has to come over from the loch most abounding in herrings, to the opposite side of the channel, to clear out, and then to return to the very spot from whence he came before he can begin to fiſh.

July 25. Paſsed the day in walking out and viewing the island. Dr Thorkelin set out a-foot amidst bad weather, and walked fifty miles to see the west side of the island, which is inacceſsible by any other conveyance. His object was to view some large circular stones, said to be the next in size to those at Stonehenge, and vulgarly called druids temples; but improperly, he says, for Sweden and Norway have many such, where there never was a druid: He says they are the places of the meeting of the kings, or public aſsemblies for making laws; that Stonehenge was probably so written for Stone King.

Opposite side of the island, Roch Rag is situated; said to be a fine entrance from the western ocean, and a good station for the exterior fiſhery; here Seaforth offered the society a site for a town gratis. It were to be wiſhed the society would accept of all gratis

offers, and dot out the ground for people to settle on them. It is doing a great deal for industry, in so feudal a country as the Highlands of Scotland, to give a poor man a spot of ground he can call his own, however barren, or however small.—Remember to have seen a very neat house, built by a poor man on the isle of Cannay, on a spot of ground he had acquired by some means, of fourteen feet square.

To be continued.

ON THE CORN RETURNS.

Every one's interest is no one's care. PROVERB.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

FROM what I have seen of your performances, I am sure the above saying can be by no means applied to you. For you have often made it appear that the interest of the public is a considerable article in the list of your cares. But I am sorry at having occasion to observe that it is not the case with some persons, who, being paid by the publick, for publick business, ought even to make it their own.

You were pleased, some time ago, to favour the publick with a perspicuous and accurate abstract of the act passed in last session of parliament for regulating the corn trade; and, moreover, with some pertinent animadversions, on the proceedings of gentlemen in parliament, in the discussion of that important piece of business. I, therefore, supposing you and your readers to be interested in that matter, take the liberty of remarking the very great errours that appear in all the weekly accounts, of the "ave-

rage prices of corn, publiſhed by authority of parliament," according to which, the permiſsion to the subjects of this *free* country to eat bread, is given or withheld. To observe these errours, and to pronounce that they are a disgrace to those that commit them, and to the parliament, whose children they are, that overlooks them, requires only that any person of common sense, ſhould look at the publication above cited; but to save you and your readers that trouble, I ſhall only quote the following:

Average prices for the week ended April 28. 1792, of oat meal *per* boll of 140 lb. avoirdupois.

At Hexham 28 s. 8 d. Berwick on Tweed 11 s. 9 d. —both in Northumberland; from whence the average price of that county is made to be 20 s. 2 d. these being the only returns inserted of the price of oat meal for that county.

These two towns are about sixty miles distant; would it not be a good trade to buy meal at the one for 11 s. 9 d. and carry it to the other, and sell it for 28 s. 8 d. *per* boll, same weight?

"How can we such absurdities endure!"

I am your reader, A TRADER*.

* In addition to the above let me add that the average prices of oat meal, by the boll of 140 lb. (precisely the Scotch boll of eight stone weight) is, at the following places, for the returns of the same week, as follow, Westmoreland 14 s. 7 d. and in Herefordſhire 55 s. 2 d. in Lancaster 14 s. 11 d. and in Salop 50 s. 11 d. in Chester 15 s. 1 d. and in Bedfordſhire 50 s. 7 d. at *Berwick* in Northumberland and at *Roſs* in Herefordſhire, no leſs than 62 s. 6 d.!!!

It is not my buſineſs to inquire whence these errors arise; but it is a matter of too serious importance to sport with the lives of the people, several millions of whom depend upon oat meal for their principal subsiſtence, not to take notice that these errors ought to be inquired into, and instantly corrected. *Edit.*

ESSAY ON NATIONAL PREJUDICES, *&c. &c.*

All places that the eye of heaven visits,
Are to a wise MAN PORTS and happy havens. SHAKESPEARE.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

AMONG all the famous sayings of antiquity, there is none that does greater honour to the author, or affords greater pleasure to the reader, than that of the philosopher, who, being asked 'what countryman he was,' replied, that he was

'A Citizen of the world.'

How few are there to be found in modern times who can say the same, or whose conduct is consistent with such a profession? We are now become so much Scotchmen, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Spaniards, Dutchmen, Germans, *&c. &c.* that we are no longer citizens of the world: So much the natives of one particular spot, or members of one petty society, that we no longer consider ourselves as the general inhabitants of the globe, or members of that grand society which comprehends the whole human kind.

Did these prejudices prevail only among the meaner sort of people, perhaps they might be excused, as they have few, if any, opportunities of correcting them by reading, travelling, or conversing with foreigners; but the misfortune is, that they infect the minds, and influence the conduct, even of our gentlemen; of those, I mean, who have every title to this appellation, but an exemption from prejudice; which, however, in my opinion, ought to be regarded

as the characteristical mark of a gentleman: For let a man's birth be ever so high, his station ever so exalted, or his fortune ever so large, yet if he is not free from national, and all other prejudices, I should be bold to tell him that he had a low and vulgar mind, and had no just claim to the character of a gentleman. And, in fact, you will always find that those are most apt to boast of national merit, who have little or no merit of their own to depend on; than which, to be sure, nothing is more natural: The slender vine twists around the sturdy oak, for no other reason in the world but because it has not strength sufficient to support itself.

Should it be alleged, in defence of national prejudice, that it is the natural and necessary growth of love to our country; and that therefore the former cannot be destroyed without hurting the latter; I answer, that this is a gross fallacy and delusion. That it is the growth of love to our country I will allow; but that it is the natural and necessary growth of it, I absolutely deny. Superstition and enthusiasm are the growth of religion; but who ever took it in his head to affirm that they are the necessary growth of this noble principle? They are, if you will, the bastard sprouts of this heavenly plant; but not its natural and genuine branches, and may safely enough be lopped off, without doing any harm to the parent stock. Nay, perhaps, till once they are lopped off, this goodly tree can never flourish in perfect health and vigour.

Is it not very possible that I may love my own country, without hating the natives of other countries? That I may exert the most heroic bravery,

the most undaunted resolution, in defending its laws and liberty, without despising all the rest of the world as cowards and poltroons? Most certainly it is. And, if it were not, I must own I should prefer the title of the ancient philosopher, *viz.* 'A Citizen of the world,' to that of a Scotchman, Spaniard, German, or to any other appellation whatever. With all due respect, I am,

The world,
Feb. 22. 1792. } A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.

CRITICISM BY ARCTICUS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HOPE the interdiction you appeared to lay on the discussion of the merits of Dr Young's Night Thoughts, in your fourth volume, p. 24. was only applicable to some peculiar circumstance of that subject alone, and not to others of the same kind; for although pointed severity on living authors ought not to be admitted into any periodical publication, of the nature of the Bee, still the works of dead authors always were, and will be, the lawful game of criticism, to the great advantage of literature, and instruction of the public, the bulk of whom must have their judgements directed, or never can a chaste and classical taste generally prevail; whilst no sort of danger is to be apprehended from such discussions, if carried on with liberality and temper, as truth, like water, will always find its level. However, I do not mean to extend my remark to critics and commentators, who fasten on a book like a leech, and which you are

obliged to buy with it. I mean only that general species, which a man may answer without writing a folio on purpose, and finding some enterprising or good natured bookseller to print.

I highly admire the judicious memorandums and strictures on men and things, of your sensible laconic Traveller, (see vols. 4th and 5th,) who furnishes another honourable proof of a just and excellent remark, that Britain, from the freedom of its constitution, is a country of characters, which contrast curiously, in the eyes of the philosopher, with the uniformity of manners and modes of thinking in a despotic country, where the government seems to think for the public at large.

Brydone, Boswell, Cox, Wraxal, Randolph, Shairp, Smollet, *&c. &c. &c.* are only so many varieties of the British character, modified by youth, age, studies, gout, bile, or hypocondria, which I must own amuse me exceedingly; and have much the same effect as so many pictures by different masters, who seldom either see or treat a subject in the same point of view, or even in the same light and shade; so that, although the observations and strictures of your entertaining and instructive Traveller are of a superior cast, and possibly better calculated to please *us square toed fellows*, on mature reflection, than the more light and lively travellers he is so severe on, still I would be sorry we were confined to such; or, in other words, that to enjoy the mature, clear, and logical discussions of the bench, we were to be deprived of the flowery, variegated, and amusing oratory of the bar, which I believe is nearly the case at issue, and may serve as

some answer to the more pointed strictures of your able judge. Permit me, however, to add one other observation, which probably may likewise have its weight, that although a publication like yours offers a convenient vehicle for wisdom, yet, as books in general must make their own way, and booksellers their bread, it is posible the *seria mixta jocis*, may answer these two purposes better than either of them singly; especially the *first*, in this degenerate age, where a little laughing puts us in good humour to receive graver precepts and observations, which may be blended with its cause. I shall never forget Brydone's painted snow ball in the mouth of the honest seaman, (tour to Sicily and Malta,) nor the good humour with which I accompanied him afterwards to see the wonders of mount Etna; and I do not care a farthing whether the tar spit it out or not, and attacked Sir William's valet for the supposed trick; the story was excellent and I give him credit for it.

Posibly the same reasoning may be applied to abate the patriotic exertions of another of your correspondents, Bombardinion, (see vol. iv. page 283.) who is giving himself no little trouble to sift our libraries of all those gentlemen who are called great travellers, from the great events they have witnesed or heard, from Herodotus down to the thane of Fife. Now, Mr Editor, with humble submision to your correspondent's better judgement, and much commendation of his just rage, it appears to me that captain Bobadil's ancient pistol, Sir John Falstaff, and other great swaggerers of old, are not without their use on the little stage; why then may not a few such gentry be

permitted to amuse on the great theatre those who like it? For my own part I never am indisposed, without calling in with the doctor one of those gentlemen; and I really cannot take upon me to say, which of the two has the greatest hand in the cure; so that I entreat you, Mr Editor, to join your influence with mine, to deprecate the gentleman in favour of, at least, a few of the great travellers, if you have any regard for the health of your correspondent,

Imperial cadet corps,
St Petersburg.

ARCTICUS.

ON ARMAMENTS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HEARTILY joined with the majority of parliament in their refusal to pass a censure on the minister relative to the war with Russia;—a war undertaken for the best of all purposes, to prevent the balance of power, which has cost this nation so much blood, and so much treasure, from being completely overturned.

I am only afraid that even our present minister does not sufficiently guard that balance, nor does he always interfere in its support when that may seem necessary. I need not go about to prove that there are various ways in which the power of a nation may be increased beyond that of her neighbours, besides the mere acquisition of a barren, or even of a fertile territory. Improvements of every kind do, in fact, more substantially add to the strength and importance of a nation, than any enlargement of territory whatever. By clearing her waste grounds, encouraging manufactures, and increasing her trade,

a nation may become more truly and alarmingly formidable, than she could by conquering the mighty empire of all the Russias. But though I never heard that our present, or any minister, in order to preserve the balance of power, thought himself authorised to stop, or prevent the improvements of our neighbours *; yet we seem to have as much right, and as much interest to say to a nation, 'you shall not *clear* a foot of waste ground,' as we have to say 'you shall not *conquer* a foot of ground.' The cases indeed are the same, with this single difference, that a nation is generally *forced*, by the real or pretended injuries of her enemies, to engage in a war; and if she is in the right, it is but reasonable that she should conquer;—but improvements are always made *ex proprio motu*, and our right to prevent their *voluntary* operations would seem to be strongest and best founded.

* Unless we include the present war against Tippoo Saib in this number; for it is alleged, I believe with great justice, that this ambitious prince has been, for many years past, so active in improving his country, encouraging agriculture, and introducing the manufactures of silk and cotton into his dominions, and by protecting the poor against the rich, has, by these *wicked* arts, fascinated his subjects, stolen the hearts of his people, and is thus in danger of establishing a power in India, much more formidable than any thing else that has ever appeared in that part of the world; so as to give just reason to fear, that unless he shall be now crushed, he will be able, by these wicked and unlawful arts, to overturn the whole system of European government in India; a government that is founded upon principles much the reverse of what he has thus been practising. It would surely have stopped the mouths of many of those roaring fellows, who constantly oppose our good minister, if he had frankly avowed all this, instead of pretending that the war was undertaken merely because he laid claim to a small insignificant fort, which any man with half an eye can perceive was a mere *pretext*.

If what I have said be true, our minister does his business only by halves. He ought, at this moment, to be engaged in war with, or threatening war against, the half, at least, of Europe, for daring to think of bettering their situation or increasing their power. In France, for instance, not to mention controverted points, he ought to exert himself to prevent them from doubling their army by putting arms in the hands of their females. Poland, it is allowed on all hands, bids fair to become a great and powerful nation, by the late alteration of her constitution, (revolution is now an unfashionable phrase;)—*this* ought to be prevented. But what shall be said of our alliance with his majesty of Prussia? possessed already of the best army in the world, he makes more hasty strides to greatness and invincible power, by encouraging industry, and improving agriculture, than the empress of Russia, had she overrun the already desolate country on the shores of the Euxine, or even driven the Turks quite out of Europe.

Edinburgh, March 24. 1792. } D. B.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

WHERE there is emulation, there will be vanity; and where there is vanity, there will be folly.

The follies and foibles of the female sex are daily subject to the verbal sneer or criticism of men who have been soured by disappointment, or those who have been unfortunate in pursuit of lawful, or even unlawful love.

THE HUE AND CRY.

[FROM POEMS BY THE AUTHOR OF THE VILLAGE CURATE.]

OYEZ!—My good people draw near,
My story surpasses belief,
Yet deign for a moment to hear,
And assist me to catch a stray thief.

Have you chanc'd a fair damsel to meet,
Adorn'd like an angel of light,
In a robe that flow'd down to her feet,
No snow on the mountains so white?

Silver flowers bespangled her shoe,
Amber locks on her shoulders were spread,
Her waist had a girdle of blue,
And a beaver-plum'd hat had her head.

Her steps an impression scarce leave,
She bounds o'er the meadows so soon;
Her smile is like autumn's clear eve,
And her look as serene as the moon.

She seems to have nothing to blame,
Deceitless and meek as a dove;
But there lives not a thief of such fame,
She has pilfer'd below and above.

Her cheek has the blushes of day,
Her neck has undone the swan's wing;
Her breath has the odours of May,
And her eye has the dews of the spring.

She has robb'd of its crimson the rose,
She has dar'd the carnation to strip;
The bee who has plunder'd them knows,
And would fain fill his hive at her lip.

She has stole for her forehead so even,
All beauty by sea and by land;
She has all the fine azure of heaven
In the veins of her temple and hand.

Yes, yes, she has ransack'd above,
She has beggar'd both nature and art;
She has got all we honour and love,
And from me she has pilfer'd my heart.

Bring her home, honest friends, bring her home,
And set her down safe at my door;
Let her once my companion become,
And I swear she shall wander no more.

Bring her home and I'll give a reward,
Whose value can never be told,
More precious than all you regard,
More in worth than a houseful of gold.

A reward such as none but a dunce,
Such as none but a madman would miss;
O yes I will give you for once,
From the charmer you bring me,—a kiss.

TO JULIUS MARTIAL. M. VAL. MART.
FROM MARTIAL'S EPIGRAMS, LIB. X. EPIG. 47.

For the Bee.

If you wish a happy life,
Free from care and free from strife,
Let me tell you what conduce,
Such a blessing to produce.
First, a fortune that descends
Not from labour but from friends,
Fruitful fields, an annual treasure,
Gracefulville,—a daily pleasure.
Far from law, or public place,
Discontent, or double face.
Both with health and vigour blest,
And by pleasant friends carest;
Nor too far remov'd from thee,
Pleasureful simplicity!
Deck with viands sociable,
And possess an artless table;
Drink not deep your health t'impair,
But a glass to banish care.
Shun a scold to plague your life,
But embrace a modest wife;
Then you'll think each day and night,
Soon is dark and soon is light!
Such *you are*, if such you will,
Hold your wish, and *hold it still*;
Then when DEATH shall name the day,
Pleas'd you'll go, or pleas'd you'll stay!

Harewood, Yorkshire, I. T.
March 1. 1792.

TO CHASTITY.

Thou fair angelic form, Chastity! descend,
And with thy icy armour guard the fair;
From rude assaults thy coldness will defend,
Thy counsels lead them from the path of care;
But stormy love, that agitates the soul,
In whirling gulphs of danger makes the mind to roll. M.

ON THE CULTURE AND USES OF MADDER.

About thirty years ago, some efforts were made to introduce the culture of madder into this country: Premiums were offered for that purpose, and several treatises were published, to turn the attention of the farmers to that important subject,—but in vain. A few individuals, with a view to obtain the premiums, reared some of it; but in a short time the cultivation of it was abandoned; and for many years past the knowledge of this plant seems to have been lost among our farmers.

The efforts at that time proved unsuccessful, because the circumstances of the country did not afford a market sufficiently extensive for this article. Things are greatly changed since then, and the time seems now to be come, when it may be reared with profit, because the best of all premiums is now held out to the rearer, that of a ready market, at all times, for almost any quantity of it he can produce.

At the present time the consumption of madder, in the manufactures of this country, is astonishingly great: Not only is this substance employed by the *dyer* in great quantities, the calico printers consume a still greater quantity of it, as madder forms the basis of almost all the dark colours they make, so that the sums that are annually paid by Britain to foreign countries, for madder alone, are now immense; and as our manufactures increase, these sums must continue to augment more and more.

In these circumstances, and seeing madder can be reared without difficulty in this country, it surely behoves us to turn our attention to the rearing of it here; not only because this would tend to benefit the farmer, but because it would tend, at the same time, to improve our manufac-

tures in quality, as well as to diminish their price, were we to rear it here, as I shall soon have occasion to show.

Madder is at present imported chiefly from Zealand, in the state of dried powder. Now the drying of the root, and reducing it to a powder, is not only expensive, but it also gives rise to frauds that tend to prove hurtful to the manufacture. It is, however, well known by the experiments made about twenty years ago by Mr d'Ambourney, and others in France, that, if the root be employed while yet fresh, it naturally affords a finer colour than can ever be obtained from it after it has been dried, and also yields that colouring matter in greater quantity, nearly in the proportion of two to one. So that the saving would be immense, were the plants reared by our farmers, and furnished to the manufacturer fresh as they were wanted, without being under the necessity of drying them, as they must be if brought from a great distance.

These considerations induce me strongly to recommend this plant to the notice of the British farmer, as an article that would be certain of finding a ready market, at such a price as would insure him an abundant profit, while it would, at the same time, tend to improve our manufactures, and prove upon the whole a great national benefit.

The culture of madder, though it requires skill and attention, is not at all precarious. In our climate, a good crop of it may be reared with as great certainty as that of almost any other article the farmer can rear, and will as abundantly repay his pains.—It requires indeed a deep rich soil, and those only who possess such a soil ought to attempt to rear it. But where the soil is favourable, perhaps few articles will afford a better return.

There are several varieties of the madder plant, which differ considerably from each other in their qualities, and in their mode of culture, with which the farmer ought

to be made acquainted before he begins to cultivate it. These are,

1*st*, The *Zealand madder*. This is the kind most common in use. It is, when compared with the others, a strong robust plant,—the leaves larger, and of a darker green colour. It produces fewer seeds, and the roots send out a much greater number of off-sets, or rambling fibres, than the other sorts. It is of course more easily propagated by off-sets, and more difficult to be increased by seeds than the other sorts. Its roots afford less colouring matter in proportion to their bulk, and of a less brilliant lustre than the other sorts.

2*d*, The *Hazala madder* from Smyrna; sometimes also it is called *Lizary*. This plant grows naturally in the Levant, and has been hitherto usually imported from Smyrna. Its stalks are weaker than the Zealand madder; its leaves smaller, and of a paler green colour; its roots are smaller, but firmer, and have fewer joints. And it runs more to seed than the other. It may be therefore cultivated more readily by seeds than by cuttings; and indeed this seems to be, on several accounts, the best mode of cultivating this plant, though it has been hitherto much less practised than that by runners.

3*d*, The *Oisel madder*. This is a variety that was accidentally discovered by Mr d'Ambourney, growing wild among the rocks at Oisel near Rowen in France, and cultivated by that gentleman with considerable success. It seems to be very much, if not entirely, the same with the *Hazala* above described, from which it probably differs in no respect. The roots of both these sorts contain fewer small useless fibres than the other, and a greater proportion of firm, well ripened roots, from which alone a good colour can be obtained, and therefore weight for weight, they are of much greater value to the manufacturer than the Zealand kind. Whether these be distinct varieties, that

never alter, or whether the Zealand sort may not have been originally the same sort debased by culture, is a question that may afford some amusement for the speculative philosopher to solve,—it is of no consequence for the farmer to trouble his head with it; all that imports him to know is, that in the situation they can be put under his power, they poſseſs certain properties invariably, which must influence his conduct in cultivating them, and to which he ought to attend, if he hopes to derive profit from the crop.

The culture of the common madder has been so often detailed in print, that many of my readers will be acquainted with it. Off-sets that ſhoot out from the roots, are planted in rows in the month of March. The ground is kept clean, and the earth dug at times, or horse hoed between the rows. The crop is ready for taking up at the end of the second year. The greatest difficulty attending the culture of this plant, at present, is the drying the root properly, and reducing it to powder. To do this, a particular apparatus is required, and much nicety in the operations is neceſsary. This deters people from making ſmall trials; and wise men are ſeldom disposed to enter *at large* into any new undertaking with which they are not fully acquainted. If the root were used by the manufacturer in its freſh state, this obstruction to its culture would be effectually removed.

Seeds of the Smyrna kind of madder can be easily obtained, by ordering it from that port. And, from many conſiderations, it is very evident that this is the kind which would afford most profit to the cultivator in Britain. If it were once brought into this country, its seeds could be obtained here in abundance.

These seeds come readily up a ſhort time after they are ſown, during the spring or summer season. Perhaps the

most economical mode of rearing these would be to sow them in a bed of good garden mold, in the month of May, or beginning of June, to water them when necessary, and keep them free from weeds till the month of October, when they should be transplanted to where they are to remain.

A good preparation for the ground for receiving the plants, is to have had it trenched the winter before, thoroughly dunged in the spring, and sowed with pease. When the pease are taken off the ground let it be ploughed and planted at the same time. The method of planting is this: The young plants must be taken carefully from the seed bed, so as to preserve their roots as entire as possible, and laid carefully into baskets provided for that purpose. When the plough is working, let women be distributed at regular distances along the ridge, each with a basket of plants. When the plough has opened a furrow let the plants be placed in it carefully, with their top a small matter below the surface of the ground, and the root placed at its length downwards, fixed in the newly moved mold. The plants may be put in at about a foot from each other in these rows. Two rows may be planted in the two contiguous furrows; and then three furrows may be omitted, and the fourth and fifth planted, and so on till the field be completed. The ground at the time of planting should get as deep a furrow as can be given it. And the field be laid perfectly dry during the winter.

In this state it may remain till the spring; when the surface should be harrowed smooth, as early as dry weather will permit; the annual weeds cut down by a hand hoe as soon as the plants appear, and the intervals between the double rows be horse hoed during the summer, as often as shall be found convenient. The process of horse hoing is as yet very little understood in any part of Britain. The operation should be so conducted as to lay the earth alternate-

ly first to the one side the row about the whole interval, and then on the other side, so as never to leave the plants bare of earth at both sides at the same time. It would require many words to describe this proceſs, so as to be intelligible; but any ploughman might be taught to do it by practice in a few minutes; nor have I ever seen a proceſs in agriculture that is more perfect or more easy. The plants thus cultivated may be taken up at the end of this year if neceſsary, or they may be taken up during any part of the succeeding season, as ſhall suit the conveniency of the parties.

If the season ſhould prove wet in the autumn, the planting the roots may be deferred till the spring; but in general the autumnal planting is the most advisable, as it does not retard the growth in the spring. This kind of madder ſhows itself earlier in the spring than the common kind.

The roots of madder descend to a great depth, where the soil is favourable, and being naturally tender, they must be taken up with great care. The Smyrna roots, as has been said, are firmer and more compact than the ordinary sort, and have fewer crop fibres, so that they may be more easily taken up, and have leſs refuse than the other sort.

Where it is intended that the plants ſhould be used freſh, they may be taken up at any season of the year they are wanted, and they can be preserved freſh for a very long time, merely by laying them pretty close together in any convenient place, and putting earth about them, so as to prevent them from touching each other too near and heating. In this way they can be preserved many months, with no danger and little trouble.

I ſhall conclude this article with the account of the result of Mr d'Ambourney's experiments with the green root, *which ſhall be given in our next.*

Engraved for the Bee.

CARDINAL DUBOIS.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30. 1792.

MEMOIRS OF CARDINAL DUBOIS.

With a portrait.

I GIVE the ſketch of this ſingular character as a leſſon in *the art of riſing at court.* Many perſons who live in the country entertain a very falſe notion of the talents that are neceſſary for advancing one's fortune, and obtaining places of truſt in the higher departments of government; they, therefore, reſpect thoſe people in a high degree who have proved ſucceſsful, and look upon them as ſomewhat ſuperior to human nature itſelf, both in regard to talents and diſpoſitions. Thoſe who have penetrated into the ſecrets of courts, and withdrawn the veil that conceals their real character from public view, know well, that no deception of the moſt expert performer of legerdemain tricks can be greater than this is. It is by no means my intention to penetrate deep in this myſterious walk; but as the profeſsed object of this work, is to give my readers a juſt view of men and things, it is proper that they ſhould be let see as

much, as to abate somewhat of that idolatrous veneration for men in power, which has but too long been cherished in Europe.

The following sketch of the life of cardinal Dubois is translated from a splendid work now publishing in Paris, under the title of 'les illustres modernes;' and the head is copied from the same work.

'This prince of the church was not indebted to his birth for his high station. He was the son of a poor apothecary of Brive-la-Gaillarde. Many people, says the abbé de S. Pierre, were astonished at the greatness and the quickness of his fortune. But they did not reflect that he had a great talent for knowing the weak side of men, and great facility in adapting his conduct accordingly. They did not reflect that he slept little, that he scarce ever read, that he neither loved the table nor conversation; and consequently that he had four times as much time as any body else. They did not think that neither friendship, gratitude, nor probity, stood in the way of his projects, as of a just man. They did not consider that an ambitious person, whose fortune depends on a single man, whom he surrounds with spies, to gain his end quickly; while he is offended at nothing, but suffers every thing with patience; while he wishes strongly, and especially when he can, to destroy in the mind of his master, by calumnies, all those who can approach him.

'His first secret was to persuade the regent that there was neither probity among men, nor virtue among women; and that, in the ministry, men

of abilities, and who were fruitful in resources, ought to be preferred to those of an upright and just character.

'Philip tasted these maxims of the preceptor of the duke of Chartres, who, from that moment, became the soul of the prince, by serving his pleasures. It was in vain that F. de la Chaise said that abbé Dubois was addicted to women and gaming. They answered him: That may be, but he does not attach himself, he does not get drunk, he never loves any thing. And the way to honour was open to him.

'The archbishopric of Cambray became vacant: He had the boldness to demand it, but *as if in jest*. My lord, I dreamed last night that I was archbishop of Cambray. You make very ridiculous dreams! Why not make me archbishop of Cambray as well as another! You! you an archbishop! Dubois, however, published on all sides that he had obtained the chair, to keep off pretenders: And he wrote to Destouches, who was at London as ambassador, to engage king George to ask the regent for the archbishopric of Cambray for the minister who had concluded the alliance between the two nations. This proposal appeared very ridiculous to the king of England. How could you wish, said he to Nericault, that a protestant prince should meddle with the making a prelate in France? The regent would laugh at it, and surely would not do it. Pardon me, Sire, he will laugh at it, but will do it nevertheless. And directly, he presented to him a most pressing letter ready written. The monarch signed it, and the most licentious of the clergy obtained the mitre of Fenelon. During

his absence on his ordination, a wit of the court being aſked where he was gone, malignantly anſwered, to make his *firſt* communion at Chanteloup, near Triel. It was Maſsillon who had the weakneſs to conſecrate him.

'On Easter day, after his promotion to the cardinalſhip, his eminence, who awakened later than usual, began to swear against his servants for allowing him to sleep so long on a day that he ought to say maſs. They made haste to dreſs him; and when he was ready, Dubois called a secretary, and forgot to go to say maſs, or even to hear it.

'Of a very irascible temper, nothing appeased him but coolneſs. It was neceſsary to let his anger be over and then to answer him. One evening that his people forgot to give him a pullet to supper, which he used to eat quite alone, he got into a very great rage. His officer told him calmly that he had eaten it, but that if he chose they ſhould put another to the spit. His firm aſsertion persuaded him that he was not hungry.

'When cardinal Dubois was declared prime minister, the court loaded him with sarcasms and ridicules. But the most severe pleasantry was that of the count de Nocé, who told the regent, your royal highneſs may do with him what you please; but you never can make him an honest man. He was baniſhed next day. It was in vain the counteſs du Tort reproached the duke of Orleans for that mean complaisance: It was only after the death of the cardinal that he wrote to his friend,—The beast is dead; I expect you this evening at the royal palace to supper.

It is very singular that the regent ſhould have loaded with favours and dignities the person whom no body else could suffer, and whose death he himself wiſhed for, that he ſhould have taken into the council, him with whom the dukes and mareschals of France would not aſsociate. He must have been a statesman, despicable as he was. To be at the height of greatneſs he only wanted the blue ribbon of the *Beaux esprits*. The French academy gave it him; and Fontenelle, the philosopher Fontenelle! aſsured him, in his diſcourse in the name of his brethren, that the titles he brought them appeared to them greater than all others.

'Praiſes, as well as honours, distreſsed the cardinal, who, never having tasted the pleasures of humanity, and always experienced the torments of ambition, said at last; *I wiſh I were at Paris in my fifth year, with a governeſs and five hundred crowns of rent.* This confeſsion is the best leſson and the best remedy to give to those magnificent slaves who have the fever of kings.

'Death relieved him sooner than he wiſhed from the weight of greatneſs. He had a great deal to suffer in his last illneſs, both from surgeons and his conscience. The church could have given him some consolation, but he lost his time in getting information about the ceremony which ought to be observed in administering to a cardinal.

'His mausoleum in the church of St Honoré, at Paris, is one of the masterpieces of the young Costou. *Et didicere, ut nos, marmora falsa loqui.*

'Services were rendered him every where, but he had no funeral sermon any where. This cardinal died on the 10th August 1723, aged sixty-seven years.'

A VOYAGE TO THE HEBRIDES.

Continued from p. 95. and concluded.

JULY 26. Sailed from Stornaway at one o'clock P. M. and reached the harbour of Tenera by six or seven o'clock; all hands to the fishing lines, and plenty of haddocks, whitings, and codlings, caught by the crews of the vessels.

July 27. Breakfasted with Mr Morison at Tenera. This is one of several islands in the mouth of Loch-broom, of small extent. Mr Morison has built here a very good dwelling house, a large house for curing red herrings, a shed for boats; building a quay of considerable extent. He has cultivated some fields near his house, and carries on the herring fishery with skill and assiduity; it is to be hoped, with the success he deserves. He has several vessels belonging to himself; but the want of a custom-house is a sad drawback. His island is a feu from the trustees of the annexed estates, part of the estate of lord Cromarty.

Sailed in the forenoon up the loch, about seven miles, to isle Martin, this is also a small island in the loch, feued by the trustees. Here Mr Woodhouse of Liverpool has built a house for curing red herrings, 100 feet long, and a house for his overseer, who resides constantly on the spot. There is also here a

collector and comptroller of customs, but it is not a port from whence buſses can clear out for the fiſheries. Mr Woodhouse buys the fiſh of the country people for five ſhillings the thousand. Has some boats and nets of his own. On this, and a small island adjoining, the people belonging to the work are allowed to settle and to cultivate the land, rent free. Their industry is surprising. There may be about fifty of them, most industrious beings; they fiſh for Mr Woodhouse in the season, wages 1 s. in summer, 8 d. in winter;—could have any number of them; but generally sends to the main land for extra hands. Mr Woodhouse could cure 7000 barrels of herrings, each containing from 600, to 800, in a year; Mr Morison and Mr Mackenzie of Tenera, as many; but these last generally cure white herrings.

Visited Ulapole, some miles nearer the bottom of the loch. This is the spot already surveyed by Mr Beaufoy. Here letters were left by that gentleman for the committee. The spot is a remarkable one. In the midst of the most mountainous country of Scotland, Ulapole runs out into Lochbroom, forming a peninsula, which almost intersects the loch, and contains upwards of 200 acres of flat land, some of it already cultivated, all capable of cultivation. A lime quarry, and plenty of moſs, on the rising ground of the farm, and plenty of stone every where; a freſh water river runs through the peninsula, and a small brook also runs half way through it. Here are the ruins of an ancient chapel, and for the first time since leaving Turloiſk, large fine aſh trees presented themselves to view; a grateful sight to a party who were

almost all planters of trees, and fond of them. Some said a small island called Sandornee, in the mouth of Lochbroom, would be a station preferable to Ulapole. But it was aſserted with truth, that the ſhoals of herrings always puſh down to the lower end of these sea lochs, particularly of Lochbroom; and that the fiſhers of cod might go to Sandornee, and remain there during the cod season in tents or huts, as the fiſhers of Stornaway leave that place to go to the fiſhing grounds. This decided the committee in preferring Ulapole. Within the peninsula is a fine deep harbour, proof of all weathers.—Returned to the veſsels at Tenera.

July 28. Croſsed Lochbroom in the boats, walked croſs the country of Coigaht, about three miles, afoot. Got into country boats, rowed about six miles to the bottom of Loch Inver in Aſsynte, in the county of Sutherland. This is a fine harbour, about two miles indented into the land; herrings here, and a great ling fiſhery near to it. Here Mr Donald Roſs has built a good house and curing-house for red herrings; a fine situation for a fiſhing station. The land round about, rugged but improveable. Some romantic mountains near this; one called the Sugar Loaf, from its resemblance to a sugar loaf, is of a great height. Attended part of our way back by Mr Roſs in an isle of Man fiſhing boat, decked and well adapted to that buſineſs.

Mr Roſs was aſked the value of the furniture in a Highland tenant's house; nobody, he said, could tell better than him, for he had been heir to many of them; he gave the people meal upon trust in the fa-

mine of the year 1782. All paid him that could. When they died in debt, their directions were invariably to sell all their effects to pay their meat, meaning meal. On their deaths their whole effects were sold by auction to pay this sacred debt;—these might produce at an average from 6s. to 6s. 6d. Rowed back in the evening, had the same long walk, got back into the boats of the vessels, very late, and very blowing weather, very tired. The country people, when rowing, accompany their labour, and lighten it by singing songs called *irams*. Requested an interpretation of a favourite iram, it was as follows: 'I am much vexed at not being near the sea, so that I cannot sleep in comfort; though I am at ease on horseback, the horse cannot supply my wants. It was not so with my mare (my ship,) she could carry many men; she is a racer that runs near the wind, without spurs to goad her on. She was delightful and easy at sea, always foremost in the race. Her lofty masts were built of the best pine, and her white sails were beautiful from afar. The blasts from the mountains and vallies, made her fly through the water, and shine on the top of the billows; while her men were hauling the tarry ropes. The sound of her oars was heard from afar; every man with his oar in his hand rowed slowly. When she reached the shore, the sea calves were not safe for our strength, nor the deer of the hills for our swiftness. Though my locks are grown gray this is still my delight; I hate to hold the bridle and the whip in my hand.'

July 29. Sailed, and with a light wind reached Loch Ewe, to the southward, half after six o'clock in the morning.

July 30. Visited the harbour of Aundaback, belonging to Captain Mackenzie of Green Yards; joined a large party of ladies walking on the beach. They came from Tainnifilan, a jointure house of a lady near this place. It appears a good situation for a fishing station. Searched the Yare for fish. This is a part of the beech between high and low water mark inclosed with watlings. The fish get in here when the sea flows, and are left by the ebb tide, always affording a plentiful supply of fish for the use of any family, and often for the neighbourhood. Visited another station in the loch, called Tunag. Found the ground round it very barren, and the situation too far down in the loch. Held two boards in the morning and evening. Dismissed the tender. Requisites of a good fishing station, or society's village: 1st. A good harbour with easy access to the herring and cod fishery. 2d. Good land, and a sufficient quantity for the conveniency of the inhabitants. 3d. Means of improving the land in the adjacent country. 4th. Plenty of peat fuel. 5th. Good water for domestic uses and mills. 6th. Easy communication with the country. 7th. Convenient position for general commerce and navigation. 9th. Good southern exposure. 10th. Countenance of the proprietor.

On these accounts Seaforth urged strenuously a station in Pooleu; where there is no doubt many of the above advantages are to be found.

July 31. Mr Brown and Mr Dempster took leave of the committee in order to return by land. The other gentlemen sailed back to the isle of Sky, and visited several other stations. They spent some days on the isle of Isla with Shawfield, an account of whose extensive improvements, in that island, would afford much satisfaction to the public, and do great credit to that gentleman. Rowed down the loch to Lochend, the seat of Alexander Mackenzie, esq. of Lochend. A great deal of improved, and improveable ground here. Seaforth fished for salmon in the river Ewe, and caught two in a short time.

August 1st. Attempted to sail up the river Ewe, two miles into Loch Maree, but a violent storm from the east prevented it.

August 2d. After an hospitable residence of two days with Lochend, sailed up the river and down Loch Maree, a fresh water lake, eighteen miles long. The land on the north side of Loch Ewe belongs to Lochend, and to Mr Roderick Mackenzie of Cairsarrie. Has a fine beech and terras. The opposite side of the river of Ewe is the glebe of the clergyman, who has suffered people to settle on it. It is beautifully improved, and well inhabited, although the exposure is to the north, and though the clergyman can only give these settlers security during his incumbency. The opposite banks are equally cultivable, and a finer exposure; yet are in a state of nature. The few instances of this kind that have occurred, leave little room to doubt, that long leases and secure possession would soon improve the Highlands. Sensible people at Lochend asserted that, take it all

in all, Ulapole was the best herring station in the west; and that the best cod and ling fisheries might be carried on from Loch Gareloch, Loch Ewe, and Loch Invar. The same persons affirmed, from their knowledge of the country, that some considerable people might, perhaps, build houses for themselves; yet the poverty of the generality of them made that impossible; so that unless the society built houses, and let them to the people, it must expect its towns to be for a long time very thinly inhabited.

Took leave of Seaforth, who had obligingly accompanied us to Lochend, and returned to the rest of the committee.

Here ends the maritime part of the journal any way connected with the objects of the fishery society.

Should the funds of this society ever increase to the original expectations of its friends, and continue under the same intelligent and disinterested direction, till it has increased the number of their settlements up to what the state of the country and its fisheries require; and should the government make good roads of communication through the Highlands, and to the western shores; above all, should parliament revise its maritime laws, and facilitate the communication between the Hebrides and the main land, by putting boats, going between them, on the same footing as boat navigations in the frith of Forth, or the Thames; and were the proprietors of land to remove the feudal remains of the subserviency of the industrious order of inhabitants to their superiors; it cannot be

doubted but agriculture, manufactures, and fiſheries, would soon enrich that country, and greatly improve the circumstances of the people.

N. B. At Benbecula, Clanranald, though himself a protestant, is very attentive towards the inhabitants of this island, who are all Roman catholics, in finding a place of worſhip, and doing acts of kindneſs, to the priests of their persuasion.

At Lochſhipford. Visited a ſheeling near this port. Found it a temporary hut, the walls of mud, about four feet high, the roof of turf. Crawled on all fours in at the door, which might be a hole about three feet and a half, but no wooden door, or any means of ſhutting it. The inside divided into two apartments, by a blanket hung acroſs; a bank of earth formed a bench in the outward apartment. Were received here by its female inhabitant, the wife of a neighbouring tacksman. This lady had been educated in France; and had the manners and addreſs of persons of rank of that country; was well dreſsed, chearful, spoke Engliſh well, and treated the company to some new milk, served in veſsels perfectly clean and neat. In a small hut adjoining was a comely young woman, her daughter, busily employed at her spinning wheel. When harvest approaches the family return to their farm, with their cattle and produce of the dairy. The huſband, a venerable old man, attended the party to their veſsels with great civility.—Much struck with the contrast between the hut and its inhabitants.

ON ANTIQUITIES IN SCOTLAND.

Continued from vol. viii. *p.* 333.

ON VITRIFIED FORTIFICATIONS.

I NOW proceed to the sixth kind of antiquities mentioned in a former paper, *viz.* those vitrified forts that have been lately discovered on the tops of many high hills in Scotland.

It is not yet three years since I got the first hint of this species of building*, from a gentleman who had examined them with attention; and who was, I believe, the first person who took notice of them in Scotland. This was Mr John Williams, who was for several years employed by the honourable board of trustees for managing the forfeited estates in Scotland, as a mineral surveyor on these estates †. Since that time, I have seen and examined them myself, and have made the following observations upon them:

These walls consist of stones piled rudely upon one another, and firmly cemented together by a matter that has been vitrified by means of fire, which forms a kind of artificial rock, (if you will admit this phrase,) that resists the vicisitudes of the weather, perhaps better than any other artificial cement that has ever yet been discovered.

* This part of the account was written in April 1777; and published in the fourth volume of the Archeologia. Several particulars are now added to that account.

† See his account of them in a series of letters to G. C. M. esq. published about the year 1777, 8vo, with a plate.

All the walls of this kind that I have yet seen or heard of, have been evidently erected as places of defence. They, for the most part, surround a small area on the top of some steep conical hill, of very difficult access. It often happens that there is easier access to the top of one of these hills at one place than at any other; and there they have always had the entry into the fort, which has always been defended by outworks, more or less strong, according to the degree of declivity at that place. If the form of the hill admitted of access only at one place, there are outworks only at one place; but if there are more places of easy access, the outworks are opposed to each of them, and they are proportioned in extent to the nature of the ground.

The first fortification of this kind, that I saw, was upon the top of a steep hill called *Knock-farrel*, two miles west from Dingwall in Rossshire. And as an idea of all the others may be formed from this one, I shall here subjoin a particular description of it.

The hill is of a longish form, rising into a ridge at top, long in proportion to its breadth. It is of great height, and extremely steep on both sides; so that when it is viewed at a distance from either end, it appears of a conical shape, very perfect and beautiful to look at; but, when viewed from one side, one of the ends is seen to be much steeper than the other.

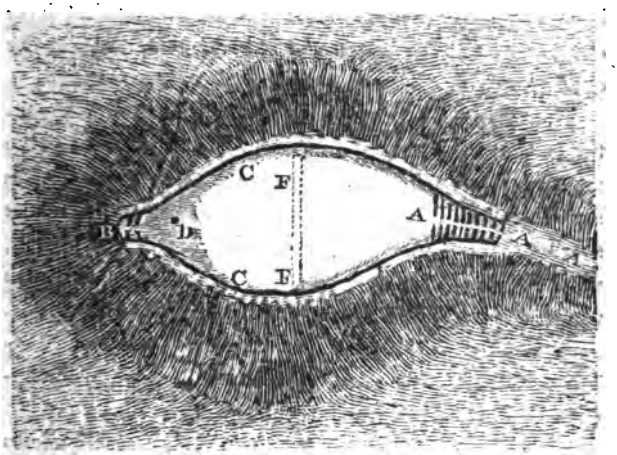
The narrow declivity of the hill is of easy access, and forms a natural road by which you may ascend to the top on horseback; and at this end has been the entry into the fort A. (see plan.) This fort consists, as I guessed by my eye, of a long eliptical area of near

an acre, which is entirely level, excepting towards each end, where it falls a little lower than in the middle. The fortification of vitrified wall, C C is continued quite round this area; being adapted to the form of the hill, so as to stand on the brink of a precipiece all round, unleſs it be at the place where you enter, and at the opposite end, B; both which places have been defended by outworks. Those at the entry had extended, as I gueſsed, about an hundred yards, and seem to have consisted of croſs walls one behind another, eight or ten in number; the ruins of which are still plainly perceptible. Through each of these walls there must have been a gate, so that the besiegers would be under the neceſsity of forcing each of these gates succeſsively before they could carry the fort; on the opposite end of the hill, as the ground is considerably steeper, the outworks seem not to have extended above twenty yards, and consist only of two or three croſs walls. Not far from the further end was a well, marked D, now filled up, but still discoverable.

To aſsist you in forming an idea of this structure, I subjoin a plan of the hill with its fortification, as if it were complete. This is drawn entirely from memory, and is not pretended to be exact in proportions; but it has the general form, and is sufficiently exact for our purpose here.

The wall all round, from the inside, appears to be only a mound of rubbiſh, consisting of loose stones, now buried among some earth, and graſs that has been gradually accumulated by the dunging of ſheep,

which resort to it as a place of ſhelter. The vitrified wall is only to be ſeen on the outside.



PLAN OF KNOCKFERREL.

Nor are these walls readily diſtinguiſhable at a diſtance, becauſe they are not raiſed in a perpendicular direction, but have been carried up, ſloping inwards at top, nearly with the ſame degree of inclination as the ſides of the hill; ſo that they ſeem, when viewed at a ſmall diſtance, to be only a part of the hill itſelf.

It appears at firſt ſight ſurpriſing that a rude people ſhould have been capable of diſcovering a cement of ſuch a ſingular kind as this is. It is leſs ſurpriſing that the knowledge of it ſhould not have been carried into other countries, as diſtant nations in thoſe periods had but little friendly intercourſe with one another. But it is no difficult matter for one who is acquainted with the nature of the country

where these structures abound, to give a very probable account of the manner in which this art has been originally discovered, and of the causes that have occasioned the knowledge of it to be lost, even in the countries where it was once universally practised.

Through all the northern parts of Scotland, a particular kind of earthy iron ore, of a very vitrescible nature, much abounds. This ore might have been accidentally mixed with some stones at a place where a great fire was kindled; and being fused by the heat, would cement the stones into one solid mass, and give the first hint of the uses to which it might be applied. A few experiments would satisfy them of the possibility of executing at large what had been accidentally discovered in miniature.

This knowledge being thus attained, nothing seems to be more simple and natural than its application to the formation of the walls of their fortified places.

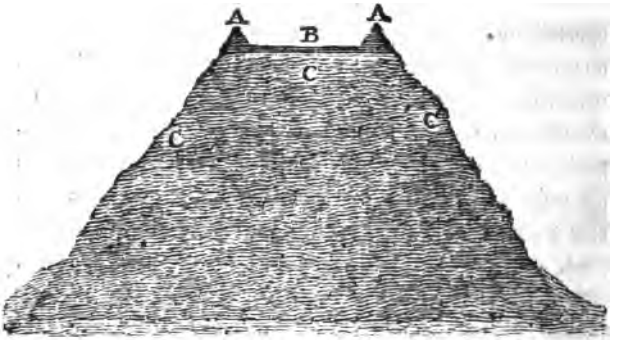
Having made choice of a proper place for their fort, they would rear a wall all round the area, building the outside of it as firm as they could of dry stones piled one above another, the interstices between them being filled full of this vitrescible iron ore; and the whole supported by a backing of loose stones piled carelessly behind it.

When the wall was thus far completed, with its facing all round reared to the height they wished for, nothing more was necessary to give it the entire finishing but to kindle a fire, all round it, sufficiently intense to melt the vitrescible ore, and thus to cement the whole into one coherent mass, as far as the influence of that heat extended. As the country then

abounded with wood, this purpose would be readily effected by building a stack of wood round the whole outside of the wall, and then setting it on fire. It was probably with a view to enable them to build this stack of wood with the greater ease, and to suffer the fire to act more forcibly and equally upon the different parts of the wall, as it gradually consumed, that they were induced to incline the walls so far from a perpendicular position. In an after period, when the woods had gradually been destroyed, and before it was well known how to manufacture peat for fuel, it would be such a difficult matter to procure fuel in abundance, that buildings of this kind would come to be disused, and the art in a short period, among a people ignorant of letters, to be entirely forgotten.

You will perhaps imagine that the above account of the manner in which these walls have been formed is only an ingenious conjecture, entirely destitute of proof; but that they have indeed been formed in this manner, can, I think, be demonstrated in as clear a manner as the nature of the subject will admit.

The ingenious Mr Williams, already mentioned, by the permission of the board of trustees, caused a section to be made across the top of the hill of Knockferrel, which was carried quite through the walls on each side, in the line marked F F, on the plan, so that any person has now an opportunity of observing the nature of these walls, and may judge of the manner in which they have been constructed.



SECTION OF KNOCKFERREL.

It appears by the section here given, that the wall all round is covered on the outside with a crust of about two feet in thickneſs, consisting of stones immersed among vitrified matter; some of the stones being half fused themselves, where the heat has been greatest, and all of them having evidently suffered a considerable heat. This crust is of an equal thickneſs, of about two feet from top to bottom, so as to lie back upon, and be supported by, the loose stones behind it.

Within that crust of vitrified matter is another stratum of some thickneſs, running from top to bottom, exactly parallel to the former, which consists of loose stones that have been scorched by the fire, but discover no marks of fusion. The stones that are nearest the vitrified part of the wall being most scorched, and those behind becoming gradually leſs and leſs so, till at length they seem not to have been affected by the heat in the smallest degree, I have endeavoured to represent this in the drawing by the gradual decrease in the ſhading.

It deserves to be remarked, that these different crusts or strata, as I have named them, for want of a more appropriated term, do not consist of separate walls, disjoined from one another, but are parts of one aggregate mass; as it frequently happens that one stone has one end of it immersed among the vitrified matter in the wall, and the other end of it only scorched by heat; and in the same manner it often happens, that one end of a stone is scorched by heat, while the other end appears never to have suffered in the smallest degree from the action of the fire. This affords the clearest proof that the heat has been applied to them after they have been placed in the wall.

In carrying the section across the level area in the middle of the fortification, there was found a stratum of black vegetable mold B, lying above the solid rock C C C. This mold has probably been formed in the course of ages by the dunging of sheep which resort often to this place for shelter.

Nothing seems to be more judicious or simple than this mode of fortification adopted by our forefathers. The stones for forming the walls were probably dug from the top of the rock that formed the ridge of the hill, and therefore served at once to level the area of the fort, and to erect the massy walls without any expence of carriage. The walls too, although rude in form, and inelegant in appearance, were extremely well adapted for the only mode of defence that their situation rendered necessary. For as they were always placed upon the brink of a precipice, no weapon could have been so destructive to an assailant as a stone rolled down the hill: But as the inside of the

wall consisted, in every part of it, of an immense heap of loose stones, the defendants could never be at a loss for weapons wherever the attack was made *.

Many hills are fortified in this manner through all the northern parts of Scotland. I have heard of none of this kind that have as yet been discovered, farther south than the shire of Angus; but it is possible that others of the same kind may be yet discovered that have not hitherto been taken notice of. I think governor Pownal mentions some in a memoir lately given in by him to the Antiquary Society. I have not the memoir here, and therefore cannot consult it; but a little attention will soon discover if it is of the same kind with that which is here described †.

To be continued.

A LETTER FROM A SCHOOLMASTER.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IN this age, so much famed for learning, and encouragement given to the learned, it is extraordinary that we schoolmasters have been so much neglected, and left almost in a state of beggary. It must be allowed that we are very useful members of society, we may then justly claim a competent subsistence as a reward for our labour. But whether the present salaries and emoluments be sufficient for that purpose, let the candid reader judge, when he is in-

* In some of the hills thus fortified, there is another circumvallation, sometimes two, drawn round the hill nearer the base, which has probably been intended for the security of cattle, they will be more particularly noted in the sequel.

† See the governor's account of Penman Mawr. Archæol. vol. iii. 303.

formed of their amount, which is as follows, *viz.* school salary, L. 5 : 11 : 1½, school fees, about L. 7, session clerk's fee and emoluments L. 2, in all L. 14, 11 s. 1½d. *per annum.* Many schools are not worth so much, but at least four-fifths of them in the northern part of the kingdom do not much exceed this calculation. This does not amount to 11d. *per* day, while a common mechanic receives more than a shilling, and a day labourer or farm servant, nearly as much as we. But a schoolmaster's expences must be greater than those of a mechanic or farm servant.

The value of money has fallen about one half, during the last fifty years. If this has been the case during the preceding fifty years, (about the beginning of which period our salaries were settled in their present form,) a schoolmaster's annual income was then worth near L. 60. of our present money. Upon this we might support ourselves in a becoming manner. At least, L. 40. or L. 50. would be necessary to make us comfortable. The nation are not so saving of their money in any other particular; for a minister may squander away two or three millions upon an useless armament; six or seven hundred thousand, annually, upon a colony as useless, with the approbation of a great part of the people. The House of Commons lately voted, for an establishment to the duke of York, L. 8,000. *per annum.* This sum, with a proportional addition to the school fee, would make all the schoolmasters of Scotland easy in their circumstances. It is very hard that the nation cannot afford so great an augmentation to them all, as to one of the king's sons upon his marriage. It

is certain that ministry, by augmenting our salaries, would do the nation more service than has been done by our late armaments; and at the * tenth part of the expence. I am sensible that a great part of our landed gentlemen would account this an intolerable burden, although in many places their rents are ten times as large as they were a century ago. For this reason, many of our members of parliament would not choose to run the risk of offending their constituents by voting for such an augmentation. But while a philanthropic Wilberforce, and a patriotic Sinclair sit in the British senate, I have some faint hopes that the one, so anxiously concerned about abolishing slavery abroad, will endeavour to put a numerous body of useful subjects at home, upon an equitable footing; and that the other, so usefully employed in examining into the state of this kingdom, will use his influence to improve it in this particular. If this does not happen soon, and the value of money continue to fall, in a few years no person, properly qualified, will accept the office of a schoolmaster, which will tend directly to the subversion of every other art and science.

In publishing this sketch, and giving your opinion upon the subject, you will infinitely oblige one, who, though no subscriber for your useful Bee, yet is, by the friendship of a kind neighbour, Sir, your constant reader, *&c.*

Buchan, March 30. 1792. A COUNTRY SCHOOLMASTER.

* These two armaments cost the nation about five millions sterling, the interest of which at 4 *per cent.* is L. 200,000. one-tenth of which is L. 20,000. which would be about L. 22. to each schoolmaster in Scotland.

A TENEMENT TO BE LET. BY * *** * * * ESQ.

OYEZ!—This is that all may learn,
Whom it may happen to concern,
To any lady, not a wife,
Upon a lease to last for life,
By auction will be let this day,
And enter'd on some time in May,
A vacant heart,—not ornamented
On plans by Chesterfield inveated;
A plain, old fashion'd habitation,
Substantial, without decoration;
Large, and with room for friends to spare,
Well situate, and in good repair.
ALSO the furniture; as sighs,
Hopes, fears, oaths, pray'rs, and some few lies;
Odes, sonnets, elegies, and songs,
With all that to th'above belongs.
ALSO,—what some might have been glad,
Though in a sep'rate lot t' have had,
A good rich soil of hopeful nature,
Six measur'd acres, (feet) of stature.
LIKEWISE another lot,—an heap
Of tatter'd modesty, quite cheap.
This with the rest would have been sold,
But that by sev'ral we were told,
If put up with the heart, the price
Of that it much might prejudice.
Note well.—Th' estate, if manag'd ably,
May be improv'd consid'rably:
Love is our money, to be paid
Whenever entry shall be made,
And therefore have we fix'd the day
For ent'ring in the month of May;
But if the buyer of th' above,
Can on the spot, pay ready love.
Hereby the owner makes profession,
She instantly shall have possession;
The highest bidder be the buyer:
You may know farther of—THE CRYER.

IMITATION OF CATULLUS, BY THE SAME.

WHY will my wanton maid inquire,
How many kisses I desire?
Go count the conscious stars that see
How fond I nightly steal to thee;

Count ev'ry beaming glare that flies
From those more radiant stars, thine eyes;
Count ev'ry pant that heaves thy breast,
When to my panting bosom prest;
Go count the loves that ambush'd dwell
In ev'ry dimple's rosy dell.

SONNET.

Slow as the ev'ning draws the veil of night,
And nature shuts the parted view of day;
Soft as the pale orb'd moon imparts her light,
Painting the silver'd scene with shadowy ray

Thus Hope, once beaming, fled when Mary frown'd,
When smiles no longer grac'd the dimpl'd cheek;
Thus was the joy of life in anguish drown'd,
Thus did fell sadness reign, and thus did break

The gleam of hope—Reflection of the past
Yet still more mild the lustre it display'd;
The present happiness excells the last,
And ev'ry hidden virtue is survey'd.
Thus passion gone, and reason rules supreme,
More clear the prospect shines, and more serene.

Q. D. C.

BEAUTY. BY MRS ROBINSON.

Go tell the vain, the insolent, and fair,
That life's best days are only days of care;
That beauty, flutt'ring like a painted fly,
Owes to the spring of youth its rarest dye;
When winter comes, its charms shall fade away,
And the poor insect wither and decay:
Go—bid the giddy phantom learn from thee,
That virtue only braves mortality.

EXTEMPORE ON DEFAMATION.

Like the broad ruin pestilence extends
O'er the fair fields where yellow corn bends;
Or as the thund'ring blast's elastic fire,
That scorches black the husbandman's desires;
So flies grim Defamation thro' the air,
To frail mortality the source of care,
And in its flight destroys the lovely Fair. M.

ON THE CULTURE AND USES OF MADDER.

Continued from p. 112.

Account of M. d'Ambourney's experiments on the green root.

'In the first place, says he, I washed the roots clean, that no earthy particles might remain on them; and as I had experienced that madder loses seven-eighths of its weight, when dried sufficiently to be ground into powder, I thought it would not be amiss if I proportioned my quantity accordingly.

'With this view, in a bath which would have required one pound of ground madder, I infused eight pounds of the green root, being first pounded in a mortar; and, having dyed some cotton with it in the ordinary way, I found that the bath was still charged with colour, and that the cotton was so deeply dyed that it required two boilings to bring it to the common shade or tint.

'I continued to make the experiment with six, and with four pounds of green root; and, with the last mentioned quantity, I obtained a colour like that which is got from one pound of the dried root in powder.

'As this is the case, half the quantity of the root is saved by using it green; yet this, though well worth our attention, is not the only saving.

'I. The expence of erecting stoves and sheds, to dry the roots in uncertain weather, is entirely saved.

'II. There is no danger of loss ensuing from the root being dried too quickly or too slowly, either of which is prejudicial to its colour.

'III. The waste occasioned by cleaning the roots, when all those of the size of the tag of a lace are lost among the rubbish, is avoided.

'IV. Lastly, there is no danger to be apprehended of the roots fermenting, which the ground root constantly does, if it is not immediately made use of.

'All these advantages together, may amount to a saving of *five-eighths* in point of quantity.'

As to the time that the root may be preserved with safety after it has been taken up, the following experiments, made by Mr d'Ambourney also, will prove satisfactory.

'I caused a hole, three feet deep, to be dug in my garden, in which, October 6. I threw thirty madder plants, and the hole being filled up, remained in this manner exposed to the air and rain. I caused it to be opened on the 30th of March after, when I found all the roots in good condition.

'The hole was then filled up, and remained so till the 30th of September, when even the vermicular roots, though broken and separated from the plants, appeared to me to be as firm and healthy as when they were first deposited there; but being curious to know whether they had not undergone some alteration not discoverable by the eye, I dyed with them, at the same time with some other roots I had taken up for the purpose, and I found no difference in the bath, nor in the solidity or brightneſs of the colour.

'The planter then may preserve, in cases of neceſsity, his crop for a whole year, in a trench dug in his yard, or even in the edge of a field, observing only to lay an alternate bed of roots, and a little earth.

'In this manner he may wait for a proper opportunity of selling them, and the consumer can no longer play the tyrant, by giving him what price he pleases, because he is obliged to sell.

'The dyer, who is friend enough to himself to adopt my method of dying with green roots, may, in like manner,

preserve them in a hole in his yard, or cellar, whence he may take them as his occasions require.'

General directions for using madder roots green.

'They must be washed a little, to clear them of the 'earth which naturally cleaves to their outer coat, and for 'every pound of dried madder which would be used, 'there must be four of the green root. The roots are to be 'chopped moderately small, and afterwards bruised in 'stone or wooden mortars, (by no means in iron) till they 'are reduced to a sort of pulp. This pulp must be put 'into the boiler when the water (to which no addition 'must be afterwards made) is somewhat more than luke-'warm. It is then left till it be so hot as scarcely to 'bear the hand in it. The stuff or cotton is then to be 'plunged in, and kept moving for three quarters of an 'hour, the bath being simmering all the time. Lastly, it 'is made to boil for three quarters of an hour.'

N. B. The bath remains, when the work is done, charged with a much finer colour than when ground Dutch madder is used; but no satisfactory experiments have yet been made to ascertain the precise value of this substance.

The society of agriculture of Beauvais, to which Mr d'Ambourney's experiments had been communicated, thought proper to repeat the experiment, of which the following is the result:

'Two pieces of flannel were dyed, one with the Dutch madder, the other with some madder roots newly dug for that purpose. M. Gueren, who made the experiment, observed, that in using the green root there is a saving of five parts in eight.

'The piece dyed with the madder grown here surpassed, in livelineſs of colour, without comparison, that which was dyed with Zealand madder. Samples of this new manner have been sent to the council of state.'

From these experiments it appears, that one of the greatest obstructions to the raising of madder in this country, the difficulty of drying it properly, will be now totally removed, and that our manufacturers will derive very great benefits by having it reared in their own neighbourhood, instead of getting it imported from abroad as they now do. The price might thus be diminiſhed to them more than one half, while the farmer would be abundantly repaid for his labour. Nothing but ignorance can prevent us from engaging in the culture of this valuable article. Fortunately for the country there is no prohibitory excise duty placed upon the rearing of it.

ADVENTURES OF A RUSSIAN GENTLEMAN AT PARIS, NARRATED BY HIMSELF.

My first mistreſs made the conquest of my heart at a maſked ball, ten days after my arrival; and ſhe vanquiſhed me by these words, alone, *you are charming*. I was then only nineteen,—ſhe was handsome,—and it was the first time in my life that a woman had told me these words. When a man once says to a woman, *I love you*, the devil repeats it to her a hundred times: The devil repeated a thousand times to my ear, that I was charming; and, on that sweet persuasion, I became terribly in love. But I quitted this woman in a ſhort time; for, besides that ſhe was very fooliſh and very tiresome, I found that I was obliged to leave her to put myself into the hands of a surgeon. When I was again in the world, I related the succeſs of this good fortune, and was consoled by being told, that, besides being egregiously duped, I had been diſhonoured by attaching myself to a woman who did not belong to any of the theatres. I determined very soon to repair

that fault, and attached myself to a dancer of the opera. She had the finest leg in Paris, a young Provençal, lively, gay, and bustling about from morning till night. She was so greedy, I mean of louis d'ors, that ſhe often made me remember the words of the marechal de Villars to Lewis XIV.—ſhe only required three things, money, money, money. Her caprices were never ended, and, among others I began to suspect ſhe had one for my valet de chambre; but ſhe very soon cured me of that jealousy; for one evening I went to see her, I found her in the arms of a young French officer. I demanded satisfaction immediately of the military gallant, and he run me through the body, which put me into the hands of another surgeon for three months. I entered again into the *beau monde*, with a firm resolution to be wise for the future. They aſsured me I was improving amazingly;—that I would ſhine on my return to my own country;—that there is no rose without a thorn. Ah! why had not I a friend to tell me that the roses would fade, while the thorns would remain! Being always behind the scenes of the opera, I was overcome at last by the temptation, and took a third mistreſs. For my misfortune ſhe sung like an angel. If the other had a fine leg, this one had the most perfect arms in the world,—I thought I ſhould have died with pleasure when ſhe employed them in embracing me, while ſhe sung,

O thou, the only one on earth my heart can love!

She was at once a Syrene and a Circé; ſhe had a languiſhing eye, a fine ſkin, an enchanting softneſs, and an air of honesty that would have deceived Ulyſses. Her mother had been a dancer, and miſs was brought up in the opera house, and, from her infancy, had learned to dance, to sing, to receive the friends of her mama, and to be present at all

their parties. Every thing was in her favour, birth, education, example, precept, experience; and I was in my twentieth year. As ſhe had made it a regular study, ſhe applied herself seriously to ruin me. The greatest degree of perfection in that art is to conceal the art itself, and ſhe had attained that last degree of perfection. All her fineſse was imperceptible, and it was only on reflecting on it, in my sad retreat, after eight months, that I have discovered it. She saw that I was distrustful, and ſhe never praiſed me. If I had said a bon mot, ſhe applauded it only by a gentle smile, which added lustre to her eyes, and made her appear at once both beautiful and sincere. All my wiſhes were consulted and prevented. It was always for gaity, variety, theatres, concerts, or gaming. The mother never failed to make a daily eulogium on the merit of her daughter, nor to season her panegyric with epigrams, the most unfavourable to her sisters of the opera. My Sophia, said ſhe, is not like these wretches, who are all interested, perfidious deceivers; ſhe is gentle and wise, and God be thanked, educated in good principles. I am persuaded that ſhe was wise, for ſhe well understood the value of money, and thought of nothing but making her fortune. I had already contracted debts, I dared no longer aſk money from my father, who already complained of my expence, and threatened to send me no more. I told this one day to my mistreſs.—What does that signify ſhe answered, I have enough for both you and me. And on saying these words ſhe ran to her secretary and got a purse of a 100 guineas, which ſhe put into my hand, at the same time giving me a kiſs. She then sung these two lines.

This happy day, let's love enjoy,
And care a future time employ.

There was so much expreſsion in her singing, that the meaning of these two lines appeared to me very reasonable. Of course I thought neither of my father nor my creditors. The Provençal ruined me, without thinking of any thing but her pleasures. I believe I have said already ſhe was without caprice, and had only one decided paſsion, that of avarice. I gave her willingly, because ſhe never demanded any thing, but allowed every thing to appear the effect of my liberality. Her mother indeed praised my generosity; ſhe had even reduced the four cardinal virtues to that one alone; and at the beginning of the year ſhe proved to me, that I ought to give her daughter a diamond necklace for her new year's gift. Her demand appeared rather great,—it was about 30,000 francs. My lord ——— said ſhe, has given one to his mistreſs, who committed three or four infidelities every day. A certain German baron, whom I knew, added ſhe, has ordered one for his mistreſs, although ſhe is a creature without any kind of merit. She ended by ſhewing me that the glory of Ruſsia was concerned. I could not withstand that last argument. I gave the necklace; or rather it was the merchant who made her a present of it, since I forgot to pay for it. I continued to baniſh care, according to the maxim of my tender lover, when my father, not being able to support my extravagances any longer, ceased to send me money; and when it was found I had no other resource, the mask fell, the girl remained, and the Circé became a Megara. After a violent scene ſhe ſhut the door in my face. In order to get rid of me, ſhe advised the jeweller, who had furniſhed the diamond necklace, to put me in prison; and I am just come out of the *Fort l'Eveque*, where I have been these eight months. Now, stripped of every thing, as if I had fallen into the hands of robbers, ruined, and in debt, I re-

turn to my native country, where I shall do penance for my foolish prodigalities.

REVIEW.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF A DESIGN FOR TEACHING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, BY WILLIAM M'CARTNEY, 12*mo*. EDIN. 1791. DUNCAN.

No study ought to be more interesting to British youth, than that of their own language; yet unfortunately it has happened, that unless it be to learn a ridiculous mimicking of English pronounciation, little other attention has been hitherto paid to this important article in the course of education. A few attempts, it is true, have also been made to make children learn by rote the names that have been given to the different parts of speech by grammarians, which has been called instructing them in the principles of English grammar; but, till the present publication fell in our way, we have seen nothing like a rational plan for enabling British youth to acquire a *practical* facility in the use of their own native language.

Mr M'Cartney's plan differs from all others we have seen proposed for this purpose, in its being entirely of a practical nature. He justly observes, that every one acquires a knowledge of his mother tongue, merely by imitation and example in common conversation, and that, in every case, more or less of error will be thus imbibed. His plan goes in the first place to the pointing out these errors by the instructions of a skillful teacher, and then by exercises in speaking and in writing, always under the correction of the preceptor, gradually to accustom the pupils to an ease and correctness in the use of language.

He justly observes, that without practice the best rules can be of little avail. 'To answer the end we propose, by

this part, therefore,' he says, 'a certain portion of a book of acknowledged purity, simplicity, and elegance, will be prescribed, and the scholars called to give, from memory, in the best manner they are able, an account of more or leſs of it at the time of meeting. Great care muſt be taken to prevent this taſk from degenerating into a taſk of mere rote, which, though improving to the memory, would not contribute much to the end proposed. By guarding against this practice, farther and better effects will be produced. The memory will continue not only to be equally improved, but the powers of reflection will be awakened, and the judgement matured and confirmed. A clear, juſt, and strong phraseology, will gradually mix with the scholar's own, which is moſt eſsentially requisite in this part of Great Britain, where the language that every boy speaks is so unlike, and often so opposite to a good Engliſh style.'

The author then proceeds to develope the farther particulars of his plan, in a clear and perspicuous manner, for which we refer the reader to the work itself. It consists, in general, in exercises in speaking, under correction of the several pupils, and then in exercises in writing, upon nearly the same plan. In the exercises for writing, a subject is given out, and each pupil is required to write upon it as correctly as he can; or a claſsical sentence is purposely corrupted, and they are desired to put it into good language. This they are desired to do at home, so that they may be at liberty to correct it, and write it over again as often as they please. When it is presented to the preceptor, he merely marks above the words that are defective, and allows them once more to try to correct them, he himself only performing this taſk when they cannot do it themselves.

Such in general are the outlines of this very natural and judicious mode of instructing youth in the practice of the Engliſh language*, which, if properly carried into effect, cannot fail to prove highly beneficial to the youth of this country; and we ſincerely wiſh the ingenious author all the ſucceſs that its ſuperior merit claims. The plan meets with our warmeſt approbation, chiefly from this circumſtance, that the author ſeems to confine himſelf entirely to the eſſentials of good compoſition, and to diſregard all thoſe flimſy, affected, and meretricious ornaments of ſtile, which, under the name of elocution, and falſe compoſition, have ſo long turned the heads of our young men, thoſe eſpecially who were meant for the bar, and which has rendered them long the peſts of ſociety, and the deriſion of men of ſenſe. Our author ſeems well aware, that before an orator can ſpeak with commanding power, his own ideas muſt be clear, and his underſtanding cultivated. Without theſe firſt and moſt eſſential requiſites, an attempt at energy is only bombaſt; and fine compoſition only a bundle of diſguſting affectation.

We ſhall beg leave to offer one hint tending to improve this plan, which, if we judge aright, will coincide very much with the author's own ideas. Inſtead of deſiring the pupils, in their exerciſes, to give from memory, as nearly as they can, the words of the author, we ſhould think it better to require them to give the thoughts of the author as nearly as they could, but entirely in their own words. For this purpoſe let a paſſage of ſome book, to which they could not have acceſs, be read

* I wiſh here to make a diſtinction between *the mere teaching Engliſh*' that is merely teaching children to read Engliſh, and the inſtructing youth in the practice of Engliſh language. The writer of this eſſay does not propoſe to teach the firſt; and theſe obſervations are by no means intended to affect thoſe who teach reading only; many of them have great merit in that important and laborious employment.

by the preceptor. A little tale, or story, or historical incident will be best; and let each of them be desired to bring, not a transcription of that *from memory*, but an abstract of it, in which they ſhould aim at giving a clear idea of it, always in the fewest words poſsible. For that purpose they ſhould be desired to distinguiſh, in their own mind, the circumstances that are eſsentially neceſsary and important, from those that are more frivolous or improper, taking care to reject the last, and to seize only the great and leading ideas, thus concentring, as it were into a focus, all the good thoughts, so as to make a strong and vivid impreſsion. By exercises of this sort, under the correction of a judicious preceptor, the attention of the pupil would be directed towards thoughts instead of words. The way to find good words, is first to obtain clear ideas. The man who thinks justly, will never be satisfied with a slovenly phraseology. The man whose mind is impreſsed with a vivid idea, will not fail to find a forcible expreſsion. He who wants to reach the heart, will soon perceive that he must not play with the fancy. Thus will be introduced a taste for that manly, dignified eloquence which speaks to the heart and understanding, whose greatest ornaments are purity and simplicity alone.

In the prosecution of this plan, our author will have three Goliaths to encounter, Johnson, Gibbon, Sterne. He has, however, the satisfaction to know, that they are already gone to sleep with their fathers, while Xenophon and Thucydides still continue to be admired. It is those writings, alone, that are simple and pure, which continue to be read for ages. Affectation and bombast may please by their novelty; but when that is over, they only excite disgust and contempt. The little book by our countryman Dr John Gregory, on the comparative state of man, whose language is so natural, so simple, and so

chaste, as never to draw the attention of the reader from the subject, will continue to be read and admired, long after the pompous volumes above mentioned shall be lost in the obscurity that their own affectation hath engendered.

We are not quite clear that the author's observations on female education are altogether just. We have often imagined that there is an ease, an elegance, even in female compositions, superior to that of males, which seems to arise from a kind of frankneſs, in overleaping that kind of grammatical precision which often stops the flow of the masculine pen, and gives it a stiffneſs that smells of pedantry. It deserves to be inquired into whether this stiffneſs in male writers, does not originate in an attempt to fetter our language by rules borrowed from Latin grammar, to which it will not yield. Women, who know nothing about that grammar, of course write the Engliſh language in a more natural and unaffected manner than the great *lords of the creation*, who will not be content without resting their words upon props borrowed from Greek or Latin authors.

ANECDOTES OF THE KING.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As any diverting anecdote relating to a reigning sovereign, especially such a one as at present fills the throne of Britain, seldom fails to please his faithful subjects, and even to rivet their attachment to him, it is a pity that it ſhould be so little attended to. My chief design, by these few lines, is to stimulate such as have materials, which would tend to make us better acquainted with the exemplary goodneſs of diſpoſition, and easy deportment of his present majesty, to communicate them to the public. With this view I send the following ones which have come to my knowledge, *viz.*

One day that the late duke of Montague attended the levee, for the first time after a visit to his daughter's family in Dalkeith house, his majesty, after the usual compliments, *&c.* inquired of the duke after the health of his grandchildren. His grace, thanking his majesty, told him they were all well, and making a meal of *oat-meal pottage* every day. His majesty asked if they got good oat-meal. The duke told him that they had it excellent from a Mr James Mutter in Middle Mills, near Lafwade, upon which his majesty desired the duke to commission some for him; and I believe the royal family are supplied with that article from the same mills.

When the lady of Sir John Clerk of Pennycuick was presented to the king after her marriage with Sir John, the king said to her that she was become mistress of a beautiful estate. Her ladyship begged to know how his majesty knew that; whereupon his majesty began at the source of the river Esk, and told the situation and appearance of every villa during its course, to her ladyship's no small surprise. He made very pertinent remarks, mentioning how such and such estates could be improved.

As the countess of Elgin was at court one day, his majesty came up to her and said, 'My lady, a've gotten a letter frae your son the day, and he's brawly.'

I understand his majesty takes pleasure in imitating the Scotch dialect. ARGUS.

ON THE FOIBLES OF GREAT MEN.

'Unthought of frailties cheat us in the wise.'

It is even so; for who could suppose that the following pictures came, not from the pencil of malignity, but of truth? Who could imagine that Locke was fond of romances? that Newton gave implicit credit to the dreams

of judicial astrology? that Dr Clarke valued himself much more on his agility, than on his science? and that Pope was such an epicure, that when on a visit to lord Bolingbroke, it was his custom to lie whole days in bed, unleſs when his servant informed him there was stewed lamprey for dinner? Yet all these things were so.

The picture of human frailty may be extended, as the portraits are numerous. Queen Elisabeth was a coquette, and Bacon received a bribe! On the eve of an important battle, the duke of Marlborough was heard to chide his servant for lighting four candles in his tent, at a time when he had an important conference with prince Eugene. Luther was so immoderately paſsionate, that he sometimes boxed Melancton's ears; and Melaneton himself was a believer in dreams. Cardinals Richlieu and Mazarine were so superstitious as to employ and pension Morin, a pretender to astrology, who calculated their nativities. Tacitus, who appears in general superior to superstition, was groſsly affected by it in particular instances. Dryden was also a believer in astrology, and Hobbes firmly believed the existence of goblins and spirits.

THE FATE OF GENIUS.

The following ſhort but melancholy list proves the justice of a remark which wounds sensibility, *viz.* that many a wise head and many a worthy heart, are doomed to live in misery and die in obscurity and want. Plautus turned a mill, Terence was a slave, Boethius died in a jail, Taſso was often distreſsed for five ſhillings, Bentivoglio was refused admiſsion into the hospital he himself erected, Cervantes died of hunger, Cameens ended his days in an almshouse, and Vaugelas left his body to the surgeons, to pay his debts as far as it would go!

THE BEE,

OF

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6. 1792.

THE GROUND SQUIRREL.

THE squirrel is an active little animal common in temperate climates, though it be not a native of Scotland. These animals feed chiefly on grain and nuts; the fore teeth are strong, ſharp, and well adapted to its food. There are numerous varieties of this claſs of animals which differ from each other considerably. But the most obvious characteristics of the whole claſs are, ſhort muscular legs; toes long, and divided to their origin, of which there are four on the fore feet, with a claw behind, in some measure resembling the human thumb, by the help of which they lift their food from the ground, and feed themselves.

There are five toes on the hind feet. The tail is, in most of the varieties, strong and bushy; in some of them remarkably so.

The ground squirrel, of which an excellent figure is given above, inhabits the north of Asia; and is found in great abundance in the forests of North America. The nose and feet of this animal are of a pale red; the eyes are full, and the ears plain. The ridge of the back is marked with a black streak, and each side with a pale yellow stripe, bounded above and below by a line of black. The head, body, and tail, are of a reddish brown, and the breast and belly white.

This animal never runs up trees, unless when it is pursued, and cannot escape by any other means. It burrows in the ground, and makes two entrances to its habitation, that if one should be stopped up it may have access by the other. Its hole is formed with great skill, having several branches from the principal passage, each of which is terminated by a store-house, in which its winter food is deposited: In one is contained acorns, in another nuts, in a third maize, and in a fourth the chequapina chesnuts, its favourite food.

These animals seldom stir out during winter, nor so long as their provisions last: When these fail, they sometimes work their way into places where apples are laid up, or into barns where maize is stored, and make great havoc. During harvest, they fill their mouths so full with corn, that their cheeks are quite distended; and in this manner carry it to their concealed store. They give great preference to certain kinds of food; and if, after filling

their mouths with rye, they chance to meet with wheat, they discharge the one that they may secure the other.

These animals bite very hard, and are so extremely wild that they are tamed with difficulty. Its skin is of little value. Cats search for, and devour these like other vermin.

LETTER FROM ARCTICUS.

On rearing timber trees.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I CONGRATULATE both you and your subscribers, on the increasing interest of your fourth volume, which I have read with increasing pleasure; and think you may now safely adopt as a motto for the Bee, the chorus of the French revolution song, (*ça ira, ça ira.*) Nay, I will venture to predict, that if both go on as they do, it will in time be more applicable to the one than to the other.

However, there is one paper in the pleasing volume, which I must take the liberty of smiling at in my northern situation; I mean a grave dissertation p. 246, to convince the good lazy people of Scotland of the practicability of raising timber in their country, whilst we, in the latitude of sixty, surrounded with permanent frost and snow, which cover the earth for six months of the year, at least, and takes another to thaw, see the country around us covered with spontaneous forests, and the continual labour of the Russian boor, to dispute the soil with this most predominant part of vegetation.

You ſhould send, Mr Editor, your indolent infidels to see what wonders have been done, even in the ſtile of Engliſh gardening, in this, one of the worſt Ruſsian provinces, which nothing but political and commercial motives could make the residence of the court and nobility; whilst they have such a ſuperior country, and climate as Muscow to retire to.

Putting the imperial gardens of Sarscocello and Peterhoff out of the question, I ſhall only hint at a few of the many, planted by subjects during my own time, which will ſufficiently justify my criticism.

Prince Orloff, about eighteen or nineteen years ago, adorned a magnificent seat (Gatchina, fifteen versts east of Sarscocello, belonging at present to his imperial highneſs the grand duke of Ruſsia,) in a wild part of the country, with a beautiful garden, planned by one, and executed by another Engliſhman, of the name of Sparrow; and surely amongst all the fine things of this delightful summer residence, the noble plantations are the most conspicuous, and draw most attention. Fifteen versts beyond Gatchina, where the country, grown still wilder and apparently more steril, without a tree to be seen till you arrive at his estate, Peter Demidoff, esq. a private Ruſsian gentleman, who had been long enough in England to speak and write the language, has adorned his country seat of Sivorik with four extensive contiguous gardens, in as many varieties of the Engliſh ſtile, to suit the size, ornaments, furniture, and water of four houses placed at proper distances; where he entertains his friends in a ſtile correspondent to the

comparative magnificence or simplicity of the seat and gardens, table service, and every thing else in character, from silver down to white stone ware.

But it is to his plantations, Mr Editor, in this unprotected northern situation, that I wish to draw the attention of your readers, and I can assure you we may wander thirty versts, on gravel walks meandring through them, and count at least fourteen * different kinds of trees, which afford shade, independent of the number of handsome shrubs which ornament the wide range of these carelian pleasure grounds. Now, Sir, all this magic (for magic it must appear to those who find difficulty to plant in Scotland,) has been produced by the gentleman's own peasants, during our short summers in these northern regions; whilst you are obliged to write, or at least print essays, to convince the negligent inhabitants of an island, in a considerably lower latitude, of the practicability of raising timber, in their country, kept in a perpetual temperature by the surrounding sea.

No, Mr Editor, people from the north of Europe would not receive such excuses as valid for a want

* Sorbus aucaparia,—robinia caragar—pinus larix,—pinus cembra, for these four I do not know the English names,—pinus sylvestris, Scotch fir,—pinus abies, common fir—betula alba, birch—betula alnus, alder—ulmus campestris, elm—populus tremula, trembling poplar—salix alba, white willow—acer platonoides, maple—quercus robur, oak.

In this list I do not observe the ash tree, *fraxinus*, now the most common tree in Scotland. It is observable that no ash trees are ever found in any of the mosses in Scotland, hence it is doubtful whether it was a native or not. Will my ingenious correspondent inform me if this tree be found in Russia? It is a must beautiful tree and valuable; neither do I observe the beech, *fagus*, though a beautiful and hardy tree.

Edit.

of wood in any island under the crown of Great Britain, the Baſs, probably, excepted, when they see the scanty portion of soil that is neceſsary to support it, even on barren rocks; but I am afraid you will think me in jest, when I affirm, that we see every day, in driving through the streets of Peterſburg, self sown birches, growing, in derision of such doctrine, out of the moſs collected on the tops of old houses, as you may be aſsured by people, now in Edinburgh; so very little is the portion of the soil neceſsary for raising certain trees. If this last argument does not apologize for the liberty I took of smiling at the paper alluded to in this letter, I must plead guilty of contumacy, after just hinting at one other consideration, which militates on my side, *viz.* that such eſsays may lead people to suspect that Johnson's laughable remark did not proceed so much from imperfect vision, as your patriots have willingly alledged, in which number, I hope, you will include your correspondent ARCTICUS.

P.S. As I write rather for information than instruction, I ſhall be obliged to any of your learned correspondents, to point out if there is any thing in our long duration of frost and snow, or other circumstances attending our climate, (which you are now well acquainted with, by the philosophical transactions of your Royal Society,) which give Finland advantages over Scotland, on the subject that I have ignorantly engaged in; as on conviction, I ſhall, in future, treat with more respect the bare, and therefore bleak lands of Caledonia,-terms of opprobrium which I am so

heartily tired of hearing, that I could wish, with you, to see them done away, by a little industry of the kind you so much recommend, and which cannot fail to have a wonderful effect on the climate and produce of Scotland; whose sterility and chillness, if well founded, can only be owing to the uncontrouled influence of certain winds; a real dishonour to the inhabitants, when it is considered how much their temperature must be modified, from whatever quarter they blow, by passing over a long tract of sea; nay, the very dress of the country ascertains the fact. A great coat, at most, being all that is required in the most rigorous season; and some go without one the whole year round; whilst those who laugh at them are covered with furrs seven months of the twelve.

Imperial cadet corps,
St Petersburg. ARCTICUS.

REMARKS ON THE ABOVE BY THE EDITOR.

In elucidation of the subject that affords these sportive remarks to my ingenious correspondent, I beg leave to inform him that he is much mistaken when he supposes that the people in Scotland, in general, are either ignorant of the manner of rearing trees, or backward in cultivating them. So far is this from being the case, that I am firmly persuaded there is no part on the globe, of the same extent, where so many trees have been planted within the last half century, as in Scotland; nor any other country where this branch of rural economy is so well understood. One gentleman assured me, himself, that he alone had planted, during his own life time, upwards of forty-

eight millions of trees; and he lived several years after that; and sent me word about two months after I saw him, that he had, in that time, planted two hundred thousand more. I believed no other man ever existed on the globe who had actually planted so many trees. This was the late Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk, in Aberdeenshire. And though it would perhaps be difficult to find another person who comes near to this, yet the present earl Fife, the late earl Findlater, and many other gentlemen, have planted immense numbers, and are daily increasing their plantations. General Gordon of Fyvie planted three millions in one single inclosure; and there is scarcely a private gentleman in Aberdeenshire, who owns an estate of five or six hundred a-year, who has not planted many hundred thousand trees. Indeed all along the coast, especially to the north of the Tay, the number of trees planted every year is astonishingly great. It is on the west coast only that plantations are not general; and it is the neglect of the OAK tree, the native wood of a great part of Scotland, that we have reason to complain of. The fact is, that many fine stocks of oak woods, in the west Highlands, are abandoned to cattle and sheep; and many more are cut as copses, on account of the quick return for bark and forge wood, by which oak trees, as TIMBER, are become very rare. An evil that ought certainly to be rectified.

The variety of kinds of wood that are here reared for ornament, is very great; and almost every kind thrives in one part or other; but none prosper so well, or succeed so universally as the larch—*pinus*

larix, the most beautiful, and useful tree, as well as the quickest grower, we know; and therefore very generally propagated. I have a small plantation made by myself of that tree, which is now exactly nine years old, most of the trees of which, are about twenty feet in height. Trees, therefore, are reared here in great abundance; and thrive as well as perhaps in any climate equally distant from the torrid zone.

We are not, in Scotland, surprised at finding tree seeds spring up on the tops of houses, or on barren soils; we know well that it is on barren soils alone that ever tree seeds can spring up spontaneously. No plant is so very destructive to seedling trees as grass; and wherever grass spontaneously grows upon the surface, self sown trees never will spring up. If the soil be so bare as to yield no grass, and very little heath, trees will get up if the seeds be within reach; especially those with light seeds, like the birch or fir; for there the plants come up; nor are cattle or wild animals tempted to brouse upon them. But if a pile of grass appears, if that be not cut down, it soon increases, grows thick, covers the young plants in summer, and in winter it falls down and rots, suffocating the young trees. Even *plantations* made on such soils often fail; for if the trees be large, they frequently die down; and if the plants be small they are overtopped by the grass and smothered. An extensive heath is the kind of soil that admits of being easiest stocked with trees by planting. A naked thin soil, that neither carries heath nor grass, will soon become covered with young plants of birch

or fir, if they be fenced in from cattle, if any trees of these sorts be in the neighbourhood to afford the seeds. *Edit.*

ON THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN.

LETTER VII.

Continued from p. 27.

She wished HANOVER *in the sea*, as the cause of all our misfortunes.
Princess Dowager of Wales, Ap. Dodington.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THE parliament met again on the 16th November 1742, and earl Stanhope moved for an address to intreat his majesty, "that, in compassion to his people, "loaded already with such numerous and heavy "taxes, such large and growing debts, and *greater* "*annual expences than the nation at any time before* "*had ever sustained*, he would exonerate his sub- "jects of the charge and burden from those *mercena-* "*ries*, who were taken into the service last year, "*without the advice or consent of parliament.*" The earl of Sandwich, who supported the motion, "took "occasion to speak *with great contempt of* HA- "NOVER; and in mentioning the royal family, seem- "ed to forget that decorum *which the subject requi-* "*red.* He had indeed reason to talk with asperity "on the contract by which the Hanoverians had been "taken into the pay of Britain. *Levy-money* was "charged to the account, though they were engaged "for one year only; and *though not a single regi-* "*ment had been raised on this occasion:* They had "been levied for the security of the electorate, and "would have been maintained *if England had never*

"*engaged in the affairs of the continent* *." After reflecting on this transaction, the reader will judge whether I was wrong in comparing the annals of the cabinet, with the annals of Tyburn. Lord Sandwich was followed by the duke of Bedford, who "enlarged on the same subject: He said, it had been suspected, nor was the suspicion without foundation, "that the measures of the English ministry had "long been regulated by the interest of his majesty's "*electoral* territories; that these had been long considered as a GULPH, into which the treasure of "Britain had been thrown; that the state of Hanover had been changed without any visible cause, "since the accession of her princes to the throne of "England. Affluence had begun to wanton in her "towns, and gold to glitter in her cottages, without "the discovery of mines, or the increase of her commerce; and new dominions had been purchased, "of which *the value was never paid from the revenues of Hanover*." Had lord Stanhope, lord Sandwich, and the duke of Bedford, been persons of inferior rank, such language would have cost them their lives; for a more disgraceful and contemptuous accusation was never advanced against any sovereign. We are in the habit of railing at tyrants who have filled their palaces with domestic assassination. But the author of an unprovoked war is certainly answerable for the lives of those victims who fall in the course of it; and what is the moral distinction between the murders of the bed chamber, and those of the field of battle? Lord Bathurst and Pulteney, by that time earl of Bath, a person distinguished even

* Smollet.

among statesmen for superlative treachery, defended the measures of government by a series of evasions not worth repeating. They were answered by the earl of Chesterfield. His lordship observed "that his majesty had taken into British pay, *sixteen thousand Hanoverians*, without consulting parliament; that this step was highly derogatory to the rights and dignity of the great council of the nation, and a very dangerous precedent to future times; that while Britain exhausted herself, almost to ruin, in pursuance of engagements to the queen of Hungary, the electorate of Hanover, though under the same engagements, and governed by the same prince, appeared to contribute nothing as an ally to her assistance; but was paid by Britain, and at a very exorbitant price, for all the forces they had sent into the field." His lordship concluded in these words: "It may be proper to repeat what may be forgotten in the multitude of other objects, that this nation, after having *exalted* the elector of Hanover from *a state of obscurity*, to the crown, is condemned to hire the troops of that electorate to fight their own cause; to hire them at a rate *which was never demanded before*, and to pay *levy-money* for them; though it is known to all Europe that *they were not raised for this occasion**." In spite of these remonstrances the motion for discharging the mercenaries was rejected; and we cannot be surprised to hear, that "the new ministers became more odious than their predeces-

* Smollet.

"sors, and that people began to consider public "virtue as *an empty name.*" The supplies for 1743, amounted to six millions. Among these were *five hundred and thirty-four thousand pounds*, for the support of sixteen thousand men in Flanders; *two hundred and sixty-five thousand pounds*, for the payment of sixteen thousand Hanoverians in the service of Britain, from the 31st of August to the 25th of December 1742; three hundred and ninety-two thousand pounds, for the same troops, from 26th of December 1742 to 25th December 1743; and one hundred and sixty-one thousand pounds, for the payment of six thousand Hessians during the same period.*

The parliament met again, in December 1743; and the same debates were renewed in both houses, but the torrent of corruption swept all before it. The following grants may serve as a specimen of the prodigality of a degraded and infatuated nation. *Six hundred and thirty-four thousand pounds* were voted by the commons, for the support of an army of twenty-one thousand men, who were to be employed in Flanders; and *three hundred and ninety-three thousand pounds*, for the payment of *sixteen thousand Hanoverians*, from the 26th of December 1743, to the 25th of December 1744; *two hundred thousand pounds* for the king of Sardinia; *three hundred thousand pounds* for the queen of Hungary; *an hundred and twenty thousand pounds* to make good the deficiency of grants for the service of the year 1743; and *forty*,

* Scots Magazine for 1742. In stating the supplies for 1742, in my last letter, I omitted five hundred thousand pounds, voted in *confidence* to his majesty.

thousand pounds for the marriage portion of the princess of Denmark, one of his majesty's daughters; *five hundred and twenty-four thousand pounds* were also voted on account of the extraordinary charges of the troops serving in Flanders, incurred in the years 1742 and 1743, and not provided for by parliament; and *an hundred thousand pounds*, upon account of the extraordinary charge of forage, waggon money, and other expences incurred, or *to be incurred*, for the service of the year 1744*. It was about the end of that year, that we entered into a treaty with the king of Poland, by which we engaged to pay him an annual subsidy of an hundred thousand pounds. "A general discontent," says Frederick, "had "obliged the king of England to part with his mi-"nister lord Carteret, who had entered into all his "views; and who, *under the appearance of national* "*good*, concealed every step GEORGE made in fa-"vour of his electorate†." There was a change of men but not of measures. The duke of Bedford, the earl of Chesterfield, and the *pious* lord Littleton, in spite of their violent speeches, accepted, as well as others, a share in the plunder of their country.—Chesterfield set out for the Hague, with the the paltry title of *ambassador extraordinary*, "to persuade, "if possible, the States General to enter *heartily* in-"to the war‡;" into that very war, which he had, a thousand times over, declared to be *unjust* and *unnecessary*. Behold an independent peer of Britain de-

* Scots Magazine for 1744.

† History of my own times, Chap. xi. ‡ Smollet.

grading himself into a pander of assassination! What a dreadful picture of human nature! With what regret might his lordship have looked *up* to the situation of a scavenger! The duke of Newcastle, and his brother Mr Pelham, were the promoters of this revolution in the cabinet, and the leaders of the new ministry. As Mr Pelham's memory is mentioned with respect, it is but justice to observe that he was as forward as others in squandering the treasure and the blood of England. Were a private person, to burn his neighbour's house, or cut his throat, he would be hanged; but when a scoundrel, whose understanding is unequal to the office of a post boy, drives an hundred thousand brave men into the field, to desolate provinces, and hew nations down like oxen, we call it glory! The supplies specified in the votes for 1744, amounted to six millions and a half, and those for 1745, to about the same sum, including two hundred thousand pounds to the king of Sardinia, and five hundred thousand pounds to the queen of Hungary.

In the beginning of the year 1746, "our *faithful* "commons" settled funds for the maintenance of "the *Dutch* and *Hessian* troops who were in the "service of England, as well as for the subsidy to "the landgrave. They granted *three hundred thou-* "*sand pounds* to the king of Sardinia; *four hun-* "*dred thousand pounds* to the queen of Hungary; "*three hundred and ten thousand pounds* to defray "the expence of eighteen thousand Hanoverians; "about three and thirty thousand pounds to the elec- "tors of Mentz and Cologne; and *five hundred*

" *thousand pounds*, in a vote of credit and *confidence*, " to his majesty. The whole charge of the current " year amounted to *seven millions two hundred and* " *fifty thousand pounds* *." In the month of November, of the same year, they met a second time; and the supplies for the year 1747 were still more extravagant. " They granted *four hundred and* " *thirty-three thousand pounds* to the queen of Hungary; *three hundred thousand pounds* to the king " of Sardinia; FOUR *hundred and ten thousand pounds* " for the maintenance of eighteen thousand Hanoverian auxiliaries †; *one hundred and sixty-one* " *thousand six hundred and seven pounds*, for six " thousand Hessians; subsidies to the electors of " Cologne, Mentz, and Bavaria; and the sum of *five* " *hundred thousand pounds* to enable his majesty " to carry on the war with vigour. The supplies " amounted to nine millions four hundred and twen- " ty-five thousand pounds ‡." In my fourth letter, I have already stated the supplies for 1748. A more particular detail of part of them may deserve the reader's attention. A new parliament met on the 10th November 1747; " *five hundred and seven* " *thousand pounds* were granted for the office of " ordnance for *land* service; *twelve hundred and* " *sixty thousand pounds* for the payment of fifty " thousand *land* forces; *one million seven hundred and* " *forty-three thousand pounds* for the payment of

* Smollet.

† The price of Hanoverian blood had arisen in the course of a year *thirty per cent.* The Hessian subsidy is out of all proportion.

‡ Smollet.

"SUBSIDIES to the empress queen of Hungary, the "empress of Russia, the king of Sardinia, the "electors of Mentz and Bavaria, the forces of Ha-"nover, AND"—the devil knows how many other German despots, who *hired* out their soldiers to fight like game cocks for the best bidder. *Five hundred thousand pounds* were also voted *in confidence* to his *most gracious* majesty, who was, for no purpose whatever, steeping Europe in the blood of her inhabitants. The continental war appears to have cost us, for the year 1748, about FOUR MILLIONS STERLING, as the above sums are entirely exclusive of those granted for the service of the British navy, and for the payment of the land forces in garrisons and plantations. Had these and former subsidies been applied to the privateer service, it is very likely that the commerce of France and Spain would have been absolutely torn up by the roots; and we are commonly taught that such an event would be of infinite advantage to Britain. But supposing our neighbours reduced to universal bankruptcy, with whom are we to buy or sell? or is a merchant ambitious to transact business only with beggars? A shop keeper in the high street of Edinburgh would not expect to increase the profits of his business by reducing the whole city to ashes; yet a commercial nation proposes to gain universal wealth by spreading universal depredation. Dr Swift said that his countrymen had more pleasure *in cheating you of* A SHILLING, *than in gaining* FIVE POUNDS *by fair trade*. But this disposition is not peculiar to

* Beatson vol. i. p. 360.

Ireland. In contemplating the Spanish war of 1739, the following facts deserve a serious consideration.

The British navy lost forty-eight vessels. They carried thirteen hundred and seventy-six guns. By the common calculation, these ships must have been equipped at an expence of about thirteen hundred and seventy-six thousand pounds. Much has been boasted of the superior value of the vessels taken from the French and Spaniards, but "many "of *the most valuable prizes* were insured at LON-"DON *;" and about the close of the war a statute was actually passed to put an end to such a traffic. The historian adds, that this practice "proved the "sole cause of preventing a total bankruptcy from "taking place among their merchants." Thus, in the midst of a bloody contest, a number of British privateers were actually engaged in the destruction of British property; while the wealth of British merchants was chearfully employed in supporting the last resources of the pretended enemies of Britain. The prospect does not brighten by reflecting on the motives which reduced us to a situation so mournfully contemptible. We drew the sword in defence of the dregs of mankind, of smugglers, and slave stealers.

"England," says Voltaire, "had no interest in "this quarrel, but that of *a single ship*. She lost "much blood and treasure, and the affair of that ship "remained, after all, *in the same situation*." "In the "treaty of peace," says Beatson, "the *grand mat-"ter*, which had been the occasion of this bloody

* Naval Memoirs, vol. i. p. 361.

" and expensive war, the *right* of British ships to na-
" vigate the American seas without being searched,
" *was* NOT SO MUCH AS MENTIONED *." We never would have suffered a Spanish ship to navigate the seas of North America without *being searched;* so that our *right* was founded on the most egregious insolence. Yet in this war we at least had, and we had no more than the shadow of an object. In the German war even *that* was wanting. In the former, Britain may be compared with a country gentleman, worth twenty thousand pounds a-year, who has been detected in attempting to steal a horse worth twenty shillings.—In the latter case, we resembled a person setting his house on fire, and then driving his wife and children over the windows. FOUR MILLIONS sterling *per annum* for a queen of Hungary! Were ever mortal ears invaded with such another sound! We began this war by bribing her to fight her own battles against the king of Prussia; and, within ten years, we gave the king of Prussia *six hundred and seventy thousand pounds per annum* to fight his own battles against her †!. If this be not folly, what are we to

* Naval Memoirs, &c. vol. i. p. 392.

† At this day, what better is our conduct? While our agriculture, manufactures, and fisheries are in want of hands, eighteen months have not passed over since we were on the point of fighting and dying for the *privilege* of killing whales at *the South Pole*, and wild cats at *twice that distance*.

Even since that time we have also interfered, like a terrier between two mastiffs, in the quarrels of Turkey and Russia. When Britain was divided into two independent kingdoms, Berwick upon Tweed was a frequent object of contention; and the Turk or the Muscovite of the fourteenth century, might, with equal reason, have interested himself in the fate of Berwick, as Britons of the present age in the fate of Oczakow.

call it? What service could a king of Sardinia return us adequate to *three hundred thousand pounds per annum?* As for the sums paid to the Hessians, and the various sums of *five hundred thousand pounds* voted *in confidence*, it would be needless to ask the reader's opinion. What could Rabelais or Cervantes have invented more extravagantly ridiculous, than the circumstance of paying an hundred thousand pounds a-year to a king of Poland, and to a king of Poland too who was more than half an idiot*, to *guarantee* our dominions? This was just as if a lion had solicited protection from a mouse. The bank of England might, with equal propriety, have requested one of their porters to add his name to the firm of their company. The horrid infamy of such *a breach of trust* defies exaggeration. As for the faction in parliament, who committed such fathomless depredations on the property of their countrymen, they are to be detested as a herd of banditti, more formidable to Britain than all her enemies put together—as wretches fitter for the cells of Newgate than the benches of a senate house.

Could I from the building's top
Hear the rattling thunder drop,
While the devil upon the roof,
(If the devil be thunderproof)
Should with poker fiery-red,
Crack the stones, and melt the lead;
Drive them down on every skull,
While THE DEN OF THIEVES is full;
Quite destroy that harpies nest,
How might then our isle be blest†!

* The king of Prussia has favoured us with some curious anecdotes of this unhappy figure.

† Swift, on the Irish House of Commons.

A ſhort, but convincing answer may be given to the miserable farce of German campaigns, and German subsidies. Were the whole continent of Europe embodied under a single sovereign, yet, while we poſseſs a superior navy, we can always meet him on at least equal terms; and even were our navy to be destroyed, our hereditary bravery is so well known, that few statesmen, either sleeping or waking, would dream of landing an army on the coast of Britain.

I ſhall by your indulgence close my remarks on this memorable war in my next letter.

Laurencekirk, May 15. 1792. TIMOTHY THUNDERPROOF.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

A SPIRIT of innovation seems to be the reigning foible of the times. Our neighbours, the French, have turned their plough ſhares into swords, in order to maintain the depreſsion which they have effected, of their ancient government, and the establiſhment of a new one. The Swedes have ſhot their king, because he was growing old in promoting the welfare of his people; and the Britiſh parliament has invented the new expedient of prohibiting internal commerce in grain. From these political objects, not being able to decide whether the alterations remarked are beneficial or hurtful, I turn away my attention; but by glancing at them I am led to observe another innovation in a very different matter. The *alteration of language*, on which, presuming it to be an object of importance to the literary

circle, wherein the Bee operates, in blending the useful, with the agreeable branches of knowledge, I shall offer to the public my lucubrations.

It is well known that the pronounciation of every language is very liable to alteration, from many causes; such as the eventual connection with foreign countries, for example, the accent that the inhabitants of those parts of Ireland, where Engliſh is spoken, have acquired, has been got from the conversation and mixture of the aboriginal natives,—the caprices of faſhion, which being, as I have read in the Bee, built upon the weakneſs and folly of mankind, will rule with eternal sway,—the affectation of popular orators and players, many of whom gain their reputation by being remarkable, and having something *new* about them,—and others of a similar nature.

There is a very prevailing opinion, which, being plausible, is the more dangerous, that the *spelling* of words ſhould be accommodated to their pronounciation. This opinion I have it in view to refute.

When orthography was invented, the characters which were to denote certain words would have powers to expreſs the sounds by which these words were articulated, and the inventors would endeavour to make these powers be as nearly the same in one word as another; but, from the great nicety in the distinction betwixt sounds, nearly similar in different words, he would be obliged, in order not to swell his alphabet to an inconvenient magnitude, to make the same character expreſs sounds somewhat different in different words, such as *was* and *all*.

The orthography being thus eſtabliſhed, every person would have in his mind a distinct idea of the

sounds of these characters, according to the pronounciation of the words in which he found them used, and so would the orthography remain unaltered, if the language did not undergo any change.

But, from what I have animadverted to above, the language being continually changing, some words come to have a sound perfectly different from others, in which the same characters are used, and which were originally pronounced alike; for example,—*live* an adjective, and *live* a verb, are pronounced very differently, though the same characters are used in both; and who knows whether they were originally articulated alike or not?

The attentive reader may see from what I have said that where one begins to alter the spelling, in order to accommodate it to the words, he enters on an endleſs thread of innovation. He would, in the quoted example, have a new vowel for one of the words, as struck his fancy: Perhaps he would have written *lyve* animals; and no one knows that *I live* may not, in the course of a century, be pronounced *I lave*, and of course, provided these vowels retain, in the notion of the public at large, the same sound as at present they do, were the altering system adopted, would be so written.

I need not animadvert on the numberleſs evil consequences that would attend such a practice, as that of mutilating the spelling of words, as the fancy of the public ſhould suggest to be agreeable to the pronounciation. Every language would be the language of a day; our Thomson, our Milton, our Shakespeare, would in a hundred years be unintelligible; and to preserve our laws and our records from eternal ob-

livion, it would be neceſsary to have them all rendered into Latin, and their use would be confined to a learned, quibbling, and designing set of statesmen and lawyers.

The French have been as busy in altering their language as their constitution. It was when one of their kings married an Italian princeſs, that ſhe changed the sound of the terminatian *ois* into that of *ais;* and as it was ſhorter and more melodious to the ear, the sound was universally adopted; but the people in those days had more sense than to think of losing all their books by changing their language; and therefore no one thought of changing the spelling till the great Voltaire, who, like every one else, had his follies, introduced the *ais;* but yet it would not go down with the bulk of the nation till within these three or four years, when it would appear that the French looked on every thing that was old as detestible: They not only adopted M. Voltaire's *improvement*, but so many others, that I declare, though well versed in the French language, I cannot read a new French book without stammering at the sight of these absurdities.

I ſhall just farther remark that many of our affected literati pretend to use such orthography, as *honor*, *favor*, &c. and ſhould the final letter be, in course of time, omitted in pronounciation, which is by no means impoſsible, by the same easy infatuation they may come to write *ono*, *favo*, and so on; adieu then to old *Engliſh!*

Avoid such innovations as a deadly poison to the valuable body of Engliſh literature.

Leith 1792. A. A. L.

VERSES BY THOMSON ON THE DEATH OF HIS MOTHER.

For the Bee.

YE fabled muses I your aid disclaim,
Your airy raptures, and your fancied flame,
True genuine woe my throbbing breast inspires,
Love prompts my lays and filial duty fires;
The soul springs instant at the warm design,
And the heart dictates ev'ry flowing line.
See! where the kindest, best of mothers lies,
And death has shut her ever weeping eyes;
Has lodg'd, at last, peace in her weary breast,
And lull'd her many piercing cares to rest.
No more the orphan train around her stands,
While her full heart upbraids her needy hands;
No more the widow's lonely fate she feels,
The shock severe that modest want conceals,
Th' oppressor's scourge, the scorn of wealthy pride,
And poverty's unnumber'd ills beside;
For see! attended by th' angelic throng,
Thro' yonder worlds of light she glides along,
And claims the well earn'd raptures of the sky;
Yet fond concern recalls the mother's eye;
She seeks th' unfriended orphans left behind,
So hardly left! so bitterly resign'd!
Still, still! is she my soul's divinest theme,
The waking vision, and the wailing dream;
Amid the ruddy sun's enliv'ning blaze,
O'er my dark eyes her dewy image plays;
And in the dread dominion of the night,
Shines out again the sadly pleasing sight;
Triumphant virtue all around her darts,
And more than volumes ev'ry look imparts;
Looks!—soft, yet awful, melting, yet severe,
Where both the mother and the saint are seen.
But ah! that night—that tort'ring night remains,
May darkness dye it with its deepest stains;
May joy on it forsake her rosy bow'rs,
And streaming sorrow blast its baleful hours!
When on the margin of the briny flood,
Chill'd with a sad presaging damp I stood;
Took the last look ne'er to behold her more,
And mix'd our murmurs with the wat'ry roar;
Heard the last words fall from her pious tongue,
Then wild into the bulging vessel flung,
Which soon, too soon, convey'd me from her sight,
Dearer than life, and liberty, and light!

Why was I then, ye pow'rs! reserv'd for this,
Nor sunk immediate in the vast abyss?
Devour'd at once by the relentless wave,
And whelm'd for ever in a wat'ry grave?
Down ye wild wishes of unruly woe!
I see her with immortal beauty glow;
The early wrinkle, care contracted, gone,
Her tears all wip'd, and all her sorrows flown;
Th' exulting voice of heav'n I hear her breath,
To soothe her in the agonies of death!
I see her thro' the blest apartments rove,
And now she meets her dear expecting love.
Heart-easing sight! if not in part o'erspread,
By the damp gloom of grief's unchearful shade,
But round me, light! let this reflection pour,
Who from the night commands the shining day,
The poor man's portion and the orphan's stay.

TO HUMANITY.

For the Bee.

DELIGHTFUL emblem of the god of love,
I know thee by thy sympathising smile,
With look imploring help from heav'n above,
And hand outstretch'd to give relief the while.

I know thee by thy soft angelic form,
And the big tear which glistens in thine eye;
Sure virtue doth with double grace adorn,
When beauty feels thy pow'r humanity!

Oh to the friendless still vouchsafe thine aid,
Heal the sad wound by misery impress'd;
Give them relief, sweet interested maid,
And lull their sorrows to the wish'd for rest!
When thou dost dwell with riches wisely given,
We feel the pow'r which points the hand of heav'n.

Q. D. C.

ON HONOUR.

HONOUR!—What art thou, pretty flying name?
A vision? a protection for the bashful dame?
Away!—'tis false;—for pleasure calls the fair,
Pleasure, alone, employs their utmost care;
Else why would she, whose soul once heav'nly shone,
Break her pledg'd honour, and make me undone?
She faithless proves! her pleasure calls—Away!
Honour's but wind,—the vision of a day.

M

THE DREAM OF GALILEO,
OR
THE PLEASURES OF KNOWLEDGE.
Translated from the German.

GALILEO was twice brought before the Inquistion at Rome, because he defended the system of Copernicus, which appeared to be inconsistent with the sacred writings. The second time he lay long in prison, and in great uncertainty with regard to his fate; at last he was released upon this condition, that he should not depart from the duchy of Tuscany. The most important of his astronomical discoveries, made partly alone, and partly with assistance, are those which are mentioned in this dream. He lived, after his last imprisonment, at his country seat near Arcetri in Tuscany, having lost his sight, but enjoying, till his death, the society of Viviani, who was afterwards his biographer, and who was accustomed never to subscribe his name without the addition of the 'scholar of Galileo.' These few introductory observations will probably render the following essay more intelligible than it would otherwise have been.

Galileo, whose labours in the cause of science had given him so fair a claim to immortality, was now living at Arcetri in Tuscany, and enjoying a peaceful and honourable old age. He was already deprived of the noblest of his senses, but he still rejoiced at the appearance of the spring; partly on account of the return of the nightingale, and the sweet fragrance of the reviving blossoms; and partly on account of the lively recollection which he still retained of the pleasures that were past.

It was in the last of these seasons which he lived to enjoy, that Viviani, the youngest and most affectionate of

his scholars, carried him out to the fields at Arcetri. He perceived that he was advancing too far for his strength, and therefore intreated his conductor, with a smile, that he would not, in defiance of the prohibition, carry him beyond the boundaries of Florence; for you know, added he, the solemn engagement which I was obliged to come under to the Holy Inquisition. Viviani set him down, immediately, to recover his fatigue, upon a little mount, where, being still nearer to the plants and flowers, and sitting as it were amidst a cloud of fragrance, he recollected that ardent desire for liberty, which had seized him once at Rome upon the approach of the spring; and he was about to discharge upon his barbarous persecutors the last drop of bitterness which he had in his heart, when he checked himself suddenly with this expression: 'The spirit of Copernicus must not be provoked.'

Viviani, who was totally ignorant of the dream to which Galileo here alluded, begged for an explanation of these words; but the old man, who felt that the evening was too cool and moist for his weak nerves, insisted upon first being carried back to the house.

You know, he began when he had refreshed himself a little, with what severity I was treated at Rome, and how long my deliverance was delayed, when I found that all the powerful intercessions of my illustrious protectors, the Medicean princes, and even the recantation to which I had descended, remained wholly without effect, I threw myself down in despair upon my bed, full of the most melancholy reflections upon my fate, and of secret indignation against providence itself. So far, I exclaimed, as thy recollection extends, how blameless has been thy course of life! With what unwearied labour and zeal, for thy employment, hast thou explored the labyrinths of a false philosophy, in search of that light which thou canst not find! Hast thou not exerted every faculty of thy soul to esta-

bliſh the glorious temple of truth, upon the ruins of those fabrics of prejudice and error which were reared by ignorance, and sanctified by time? Didst thou not, as soon as nature was satisfied, retire with reluctance from the social board, and deny thyself even the slightest indulgence which could interfere for a moment with intellectual pursuits? How many hours hast thou stolen from sleep, in order to devote them entirely to wisdom? How often, when all around thee lay sunk in careleſs and profound repose, hast thou stood ſhivering with frost, while employed in contemplating the wonders of the firmament? or when clouds and darkneſs concealed them from thy view, hung over the midnight lamp, anxious to contribute, by thy discoveries, to the glory of the deity, and the instruction of mankind? Poor wretch! and what is now the fruit of thy labours? What recompence hast thou obtained for all thy efforts to glorify thy Creator; and all thy endeavours to illuminate mankind? Only that the anguiſh occasioned by thy ſufferings ſhould gradually exhaust all moisture from thine eyes;——only that those faithful allies of the soul ſhould be more and more enfeebled every day;——and that now these tears, which thou canst not restrain, ſhould extinguiſh their scanty light for ever!

Thus, Viviani, did I speak to myself; and then threw an envious glance upon my persecutors. These wretches, exclaimed I, who hide their ignorance under mysterious forms, and conceal their vices in a venerable garb; who sanctify their indolence, by imposing on the world the inventions of men for the oracles of God, and join to purſue, with unrelenting fury, the sage who raises the torch of truth, lest their luxurious slumbers ſhould be broken by its splendor. These vile ones, who are only active for their own pleasures, and the corruption of the world; who laugh at misery in their gilded palaces; whose life

is only one round of dissipation, how have they robbed merit of all, even of glory, the most precious of its rewards! With what blind devotion do the people bow to them, whom they cozen so shamefully of the fruits of their possessions, and provide for themselves the most luxurious entertainments from the fat of their herds, and the produce of their vineyards! And thou, poor wretch! who hast hitherto lived only to God, and thy own vocation, who hast never permitted a single passion to spring up in thy soul, but the pure and holy passion for truth; who hast proved thyself a priest more worthy of the deity by discovering the various wonders of his works from the fabric of an universe, to the structure of a worm; must thou be deprived of the only comfort for which thou hast pined and languished so long? of that comfort which is not withheld from the beast of the forest, and the fowls of Heaven?—of liberty? What eye watches over the fortunes of men? What righteous and impartial hand, deals out the blessings of life? thus to suffer those who are unworthy, to plunder their betters, and engross every thing to themselves.

I continued to complain till I fell asleep; and immediately a venerable old man seemed to approach my bedside. He stood and beheld me with silent satisfaction, while my eye was fixed in admiration upon his contemplative forehead, and his silver locks. Galileo, said he at last, what you now suffer, you suffer on account of the truths which I taught you; and the same superstition by which you are persecuted, would also have persecuted me, had not death procured my eternal freedom. Thou art Copernicus, exclaimed I, and, before he could answer, caught him in my arms. How sweet Viviani are those bonds of alliance established among us, by nature herself; but how much sweeter are the alliances of the soul! How much

dearer and nearer to the heart, than even the bands of brotherly affection, are the eternal ties of truth! With what a charming presentiment of that glorious moment, when the sphere of our activity shall be infinitely enlarged, and our faculties exalted, and rendered equal to a free participation of all the treasures of knowledge, do we hasten to meet a friend, who is introduced to us by wisdom!

See, said the old man, after returning my embrace, I have resumed the garb of flesh which I formerly wore, and will now be to thee, what I shall be hereafter,—thy guide. For in that world where the unfettered spirit labours continually with unwearied ardour, rest is only a change of employment; our own investigation into the mysteries of the Godhead is interrupted only by that instruction which we give to those newly arrived from the earth; and I am to be the first instructor of thy soul in the exalted knowledge of the eternal power. He led me by the hand to a descending cloud, and we took our flight into the immeasurable extent of heaven. I saw here the moon, Viviani, with her mountains and vallies; I saw the stars of the Milky Way, those of the Pleiades, and that of Orion; I saw the spots of the sun, and the moons of Jupiter; all that I first saw here below, I there saw more clearly with unassisted eyes, and wandered in heaven among my discoveries, full of the sweetest self-congratulation, like some friend of the human race, who wanders upon earth among the fruits of his beneficence. Every hour of my labours here was there fruitful of the highest happiness; of a happiness which never can be felt by him who enters futurity destitute of knowledge. And therefore, Viviani, old and feeble as I am, will I never give over my search after truth; for he who spends his life in the godlike employment, will find my joy spring up for him hereafter,

from every object on which he turns his eyes,—from every conjecture which he had laboured to confirm,—from every doubt which he had endeavoured to remove,—from every mystery he had attempted to discover,—and from every error he had assisted to dispell. All this I felt in those moments of exultation; but the recollection that I felt it, is all that remains; for my soul, too much oppress with happiness, lost every single pleasure in the ocean of them all.

While I thus gazed, and wondered, and lost myself in his greatness, whose omnipotence and wisdom created the whole; and whose love, ever active, upholds and supports it, I was raised by the conversation of my guide, to still higher and more exalted conceptions. Not the limits of thy senses, said he, are also the limits of the universe. Numerous indeed, is the host of suns, whose lustre is apparent even to thy view, although from such an inconceivable distance; but there are many thousands more which you cannot discern, shining through the endless expanse of ether; and each of these suns, is peopled, as well as each of the spheres which surrounded them, with sensible beings and with thinking souls; wherever there was space sufficient for their motions, there worlds were commanded to roll, and wherever intelligent beings could be happy, there intelligent beings were produced. In the whole immensity of the Eternal's existence, there is not a single span to be found which the provident creator has not furnished with life, or at least with matter serviceable to life; and through all this countless multiplicity of beings, down even to the smallest atom, reigns the most inviolable regularity and order; all is maintained by eternal laws, in ravishing harmony, from earth to earth, from heaven to heaven, and from sun to sun; the matter for contemplation to an immortal sage, is as unfathomable as eternity itself,

and as inexhaustible, the spring of his enjoyments. But why, Galileo, should I thus speak to you at present? such enjoyments cannot be comprehended by a spirit still fettered to a sluggish companion, which can proceed no farther in its labours than that companion is able to go along, and scarcely begins to raise itself aloft, before it is forcibly dragged back to the dust.

It may not be able to comprehend these enjoyments in all their godlike fullness and perfection; but surely, Copernicus, exclaimed I, it knows them in their nature, and in their essence. For what joys does not wisdom procure us, even in this sublunary life? What rapture is not felt by the soul, even in this frame of mortality, when the dark and doubtful twilight of its understanding begins to give place to the dawn of science, and the secret splendour extends wider and wider, till the full light of knowledge at last arises, and displays before the enraptured eye, regions full of eternal beauty? Call to mind, thou who hast penetrated so far into the mysteries of God, and the plan of his creation,—call to mind that glorious moment, when the first bold conception arose within thee, and summoned together all the faculties of thy soul, to comprehend, to fashion, and to arrange it; but when all the noble harmony was completed, with what intoxicating feelings of love, didst thou not review the labour of thy soul, and feel thy resemblance to that eternal Being, whose sublimest conceptions had been copied by thee. Yes, my guide, even here below, wisdom is rich in celestial joys; had she not been so, could we, from her bosom, have looked with such indifference on all the vanities of the world.

The cloud which supported us, had sunk again to earth, and now it rested, as I thought, upon one of the hills in the neighbourhood of Rome. The great metropolis of the world lay before us; but full of the deepest contempt for

its glories, I stretched out my hand from my elevation, and said, let the proud inhabitants of these palaces think as they will of their own importance, because their limbs are robed in purple, and their tables loaded with gold and silver, and heaped with the luxuries of Europe and the Indies; but the sage looks down upon these wretches as the eagle upon the silk-worm enclosed within its web; for in their souls they are only prisoners, who cannot abandon the leaf to which they cling; while the sage wanders on the mountains of liberty, and sees the world under his feet, or soars aloft upon the wings of contemplation, converses with the Deity, and walks a m. o the stars.

While I was thus speaking, a serious solemnity overclouded the countenance of my guide; his fraternal arm dropt from my shoulder, and his eye darted a threatening glance, even to the inmost receſses of my soul. Wretch! cried he, is it then for this end that you have tasted upon earth of these pleasures of heaven? That your name has been rendered great among the nations? That every faculty of your soul has been exalted, in order to be exercised with more freedom and perseverance in the knowledge of truth through the ages of eternity? And now that you are thought worthy to suffer persecution;—now that your wisdom should turn to your advantage;—and your heart be as richly adorned with virtue, as your spirit has hitherto been with knowledge,—now is every spark of gratitude extinguiſhed, and your soul murmurs against your God?

Here I awakened from my delightful dream, saw myself cast, from all the glories of heaven, down to my dark and solitary dungeon, and watered my couch with a flood of tears. Then through all the darkneſs which surrounded me, I raised my eye, and spoke thus: Oh God full of love! has the Nothing which owes its existence to thee

presumed to censure thy holy ways? Has the dust which received a soul from thee, ascribed to the account of its own deservings what was only the gift of thy mercy? Has the wretch whom thou hast nourished in thy bosom, and to whom thou hast given from thy own cup so many cordial drops of happiness, has he forgotten his obligations to thee? Strike immediately his eyes with blindness; let him never again hear the voice of friendship; let him grow gray in this dismal dungeon! With a willing spirit will he submit to it, thankful for the remembrance of the pleasures that are past, and happy in the expectation of futurity.

It was my whole soul, Viviani, which I poured forth in this prayer; but it was not the murmur of discontent, but the voluntary resignation of gratitude, which was heard and attended to by that God who still reserved me for so much happiness; for do I not live here in freedom? and has not my friend, this very day, carried me forth among the flowers of the spring?

Here he felt for the hand of his scholar, in order to give it a grateful squeeze; but Viviani seized upon his, and carried it with veneration to his lips.

STATE OF NATURE.

From Plowden's Jura Anglorum.

The state of nature, in which all philosophers consider man, and the rights and properties inherent in his nature, is a mere theoretical and metaphysical state, pre-existing only in the mind, before the physical existence of any human entity whatever. As this state of nature, then, never had any real existence, so also the various qualities, properties, rights, powers, and adjuncts annexed unto it, are mere creatures of the imagination, attributable only to

man in this ideal state of speculation; they bear the same sort of analogy to the physical state of man in society, as principles and properties of mathematical points and lines bear to be the practical rules of mechanics. As well might we attempt to handle and manufacture a mathematical point, as to move only upon the principles of this state of nature, being placed by the beneficence of our Creator in the physical state of society. Some of our greatest philophers, as is often the case, to avoid pleonasm, and in the full glare of their own conviction, have omitted to say, in expreſs words, that this state of nature, in which they considered man in the abstract, never had an actual, physical, or real existence in this world; and this omiſsion has, perhaps, occasioned the error of many *modern illuminators*, who, from ignorance, have confounded the two states together; or, from designed malice, have transplanted the attributes and properties of the one into the other.

It requires no argument to prove when the physical civilized state of society commenced; for, from the commencement of this must be dated the impoſsible existence of the state of pure nature. Mr Locke eſtabliſhes this commencement from the formation and co-existence of our first parents, Adam and Eve; and he draws the neceſsity of it from the intrinsic nature and exigencies of man, as he has been actually formed and constituted by his Creator.

This fact, then, is incontrovertible; that the only individual, who can be said, in any sense, to have existed in the state of nature, was Adam, before the formation of his wife. But how these rights could be exercised by him in that forlorn state of solitude, I know as little as I do of the period of its duration. When, therefore, we speak generally of the rights of man, we ought to be understood to speak of those rights which are attributable to man in the civilized state of society. Thus every dis-

cuſion of the actual exercise of the rights of man, imports neceſsarily the contemplation of the *social civil* man, and no other.

In the theoretical, or supposed transition of man, from the state of nature to the state of society, such natural rights as the individual actually retains, independently of the society of which he is a member, are said to be retained by him, as a part of those rights which he is supposed to have poſseſsed in the state of nature. Such are the free and uncontrouled power of directing all his animal motions; such the uninterrupted communication and intercourse of the soul with its Creator; such the unrestrained freedom of his own thoughts; for so long as an individual occasions no harm, and offers no offence to his neighbour, by the exercise of any of these rights, the society cannot controul nor check him in the exercise of them.

But in this transition, the surrendered or exchanged rights were so irrevocably transferred from the individual to the body at large, that it no longer remained at the liberty or option of individuals to reclaim, either in the whole or in part, those rights, which had so become unalienably vested in the community.

It is as singular, as it is unaccountable, that some of the *illuminating philosophers* of the present day ſhould, even under the Britiſh constitution, claim and insist upon the actual exercise of these natural rights of man; when it is notorious, even to a demonstration, that the exercise of them would be eſsentially *destructive* to all political and civil liberty, could they really be brought into action. For it is self-evident, that the perfect equalization of mankind, such as is attributable to this imaginary and merely speculative state of natural freedom, would prevent every individual from acquiring an exclusive right or property in any portion of this terraqueous globe, or in

any other particle of matter, beyond that of his own corporeal frame. Liberty pre-supposes the possibility of acquiring and reaping the advantages of property; a right of receiving and giving aid and protection; and a power of bettering one's own condition, and providing for one's family; it pre-supposes virtue, in holding out its rewards; and the rewards of virtue necessarily induce distinction and and preference of the virtuous over others, which are essentially contradictory to perfect equalization. The extent of this proposition, "*men are all born equally free,*" must include each individual human being, or it says nothing; but it admits of no other than that original sense of equality, inherent in the metaphysical essence of man, which is not applicable to the physical existence of social men, since it is essentially incompatible with the existence of society, which denominates man social.

An Englishman will conceive no liberty where there is no law, no property, no religion. The preservation of these constitutes the sum total of those rights and liberties for which he will even sacrifice his life. Upon what ground then, shall an Englishman, even in theory, admit principles into civil government, which would justify the peasant in seizing the lands of his lord, the servant, in demanding the property of his master, the labourer, that of his employer, the robber in purloining his neighbour's purse, the adulterer in defiling the wife of another, the outlawed in reviling, contemning, and violating the laws of the community?

The greatest mischiefs arise from the misunderstanding and misapplication of terms. Millions of lives have been sacrificed in disputes and controversies upon the tenor and tendency of words. General abstract propositions are super-eminently liable to this evil, as appears in many calamitous instances of our own country. The use of words and terms can only be, to convey to others the real mean-

ing and purport of what we think ourselves. Thus, if I happen, by an unusual and awkward combination of words and phrases, to express my meaning and sentiments upon a subject to a third person, provided I am really understood, and my sentiments are admitted, I do not see upon what other ground, than that of grammar or syntax, a dispute can be instituted. And in the subject under our present consideration, if any other term had been used to express the *natural rights of man, or the state of nature*, the whole animosity of the adverse disputants would have subsided, under the conviction that neither differed in opinion substantially from the other. I have read over most of the late publications upon the subject, and I do not find one of any note or consequence, that does not in fact and substance admit this state of nature, to which they annex or attribute these *indefeasible rights of man*, to be a mere imaginary state of speculation. Much ill blood would have been avoided, much labour and pain have been spared, and many lives have been preserved, if any other than the epithet *natural* had been applied to these rights and this state.

The bulk of mankind are little able, and less habituated, to analise the import and tendency of words and phrases; and few amongst them will separate the idea, which they conceive the word *natural* conveys, from the state of their physical existence. They will plainly argue, that such as God hath made them, such they are; nor do they think of, nor demand any other rights, than such as God hath given them, for the purpose for which in his goodness he created them. The practical doctrine from such argument will be what I before quoted from Mr Locke: 'God having made man such a creature, that, in his own judgement, it was not good for him to be alone, put him under strong obligations of necessity, convenience, and inclination, to drive him into society, as well as fitted him with

understanding and language to continue and enjoy it." Thus, perhaps, more properly, though less technically speaking, we come to consider man in his *real natural* state, which is that of society. For Buchanan says truly *: "First of all, then, we agree, that men by *nature* are made to live in society together, and for a communion of life."

ON SCANDAL.

——"Hæret lateri lethalis arundo."

AGAINST slander there is no defence. Hell cannot boast so foul a fiend; nor man deplore so fell a foe. It stabs with a word,—with a nod,—with a shrug,—with a look,—with a smile. It is the pestilence walking in darkness, spreading contagion far and wide, which the most wary traveller cannot avoid;——it is the heart-searching dagger of the assassin;——it is the poisoned arrow whose wound is incurable;——it is the mortal sting of the deadly adder. Murder is its employment,—innocence its prey,——and ruin its sport.——Maria was a fatal instance. Her head was a little raised from the pillow, supported by her hand, and her countenance was exceeding sorrowful,—the glowing blush of eighteen vanished from her cheeks, and fever rioted in luxury upon her damask skin.——It is even so;—a bursting sigh laboured from her bosom;—virtue is no protection while detraction breathes malignity,—while envy searches for faults and tortures truth. I might have been happy!—— but Oh! ye busy thoughts, recal not to my memory these joyful hours! She struggled,—but in vain. The invisible power of darkness closed her eyes, and her heaving breast panted with the last throbbings of a broken heart.——She is now no more,—scandal triumphed over the lovely maid. Superior qualifications made her the dupe of envy, and a fever followed.—She fell a sacrifice to exquisite feelings!

* Buchanan of the due privilege of the Scots government, p. 189.

THE BEE,

OF

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13. 1792.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCADIA AT ROME, WITH A SKETCH OF THE STATE OF LITERATURE IN ITALY FOR THESE LAST THREE CENTURIES. BY ABBE TOURNER, TEACHER OF LANGUAGES, EDINBURGH, AUTHOR OF THE ANECDOTES OF POPE GANGANELLI, &c.

Revolutions in the opinions of mankind often take their rise from very small beginnings; and these opinions, when once established, produce wonderful changes in the situation of men and things in this universe. No species of history therefore could be more interesting than that which should trace, with perspicuity, the revolutions of literature, and explain the causes of these changes. The Editor has been favoured with the following sketch of the changes that have taken place in the taste for literary compositions in Italy for two hundred years past, by a gentleman who has had good opportunities of observing them; and who posseses a natural talent of research in matters of this sort that few can boast of. Every step we advance in our researches into the history of man, tends to prove, in the most decided manner, that those accidental distinctions which weak writers have delighted to hold up to view, as permanent characteristics of nations, are merely casual incidents, being occasioned by local circumstances, that tend to call into action, or to lull asleep, the active powers of the mind at the time; and that when these overruling causes are removed, man shows himself to be, in every country, radically and essentially the same. Let us then set aside those silly prejudices that have so long tended to estrange na-

tions from each other. All mankind are brethren, and ought to be friends and fellow labourers in one common cause. They all ought to embrace each other cordially as brothers, and as friends. The time approaches when nations, it is hoped, will be emulous only to try who shall be most forward in promoting the welfare of one another, from a firm conviction, that they will thus best promote their own happineſs and dearest interests. This slight eſsay will convince every intelligent reader, that an Engliſhman and a Roman, think nearly in the same way, in all those great and leading principles which influence the conduct of man, in regard to religion, morals, and sound politics.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IN consequence of the desire you expreſsed in a late conversation with me, to have an account of the society in Rome, distinguiſhed by the name of *Arcadia*, which is so little known in this country, I now send the inclosed account of that institution, which I hope will not prove unacceptable to your readers at the present time.

As the original intention of this society was to correct a false taste in literary compositions, which had long prevailed in Italy, I found it neceſsary to give a brief account of the state of Italian literature for some centuries backward. The Engliſh reader will probably not be displeased to see by what gradual steps a few private persons, by the silent operation of reason, alone, have imperceptibly effected a total change in the taste of the nation; they will also remark with pleasure the beneficial effects of mental enlargement in this case as well as in others. We are not at this day in Italy ignorant of the benefits that have been derived from the reformation effected by protestants, and are no strangers to the influence that the free mode of reasoning, introduced by that

event, has had upon many other subjects, literary and political. A similar effect is now experienced at Rome, from the influence of the doctrines of the society of *Arcadia*. For though the persons who formed that institution had no other object in view at the beginning, but to correct the errors of a false taste, by setting aside all deference to every *authority* in literature, that was not supported by sound reason, and common sense; yet it has been found that those who disregard mere authority in one case, will naturally suspect it ought not to be blindly submitted to in another. The empire of reason is thus gradually extended; and there can be no doubt but that that blind ignorance, which so long established the reign of bigotry in Europe, will in time be banished from the earth; and that men will soon reason with as much freedom in Rome on every subject, as they now do in Britain.

The inhabitants of Arcadia, a province of the Peloponnesus, have always been considered as affording the purest pattern of the pastoral life. The temperature of the climate, the multiplicity of mountains, of woods, of rivers; the richness of their pastures, the abundance of cattle and flocks, the tranquil disposition of the people, their abhorrence of war, and their love of music and poetry, to which they were accustomed from their youth; their manners, customs, and even their laws, have all contributed to render them supremely eminent in this respect. Polybius gives us a most pleas-

ing character of the ancient Arcadians. The poets have adopted the same idea, traces of which are found in Pindar, and Homer, among the Greeks; and among the Latins, not to speak of Horace, Ovid, Propertius and others, Virgil alone would be sufficient, who not only has taken an opportunity to adorn his bucolics with the peculiarities of Arcadia, but dedicated the greatest part of the eight book of the Æneid to the memory of Evander, and the praises of the Arcadians. *Jacopo Sannazaro*, a celebrated Italian and Latin poet of the sixteenth century, under the name of *Actius Sincerus*, completed what in a manner had been only hinted by others. His *Arcadia*, a composition consisting of eclogues in verse and in prose, deserves to be read and admired for the sweetnefs of its numbers, and the simplicity of its elocution.

After his steps, and almost with the same pastoral simplicity, *Taſso* laid the scene of his *Aminta* in Arcadia, where likewise *Guarini* fixed the scenery of his *Pastor Fido*, a composition in which certainly many beauties are to be found, though, unluckily, too much interspersed with *concetti;* but as for his ſhepherds there is nothing pastoral in them, except the pellice, the crook, and the javelin, and they might rather be considered as refined citizens, and knaviſh courtiers in a ſhepherd's disguise.

These performances, in some respect, paved the way to the institution of the modern *Arcadia*, which, although it is nothing else but an union of men of letters, or as it is commonly called an *academy of belles lettres*, yet it has so much distinguiſhed itself,

above all other academies, not only in Rome and Italy, but likewise in many other parts of Europe, that it is respected as an universal literary republic.

This institution was intended to put out of fashion the barbarous taste which prevailed very much for the greatest part of the last century in the writings of the Italians; a faulty taste from which the writers of other parts of Europe were not at all free. But, before I undertake to shew how it has been by degrees extirpated, and how the good stile was recovered, by imitating the best masters of antiquity, it will not be amiss to give a cursory review of the state of letters in the greater part of Italy, when the society of *Arcadia* was instituted.

Four centuries were almost passed since the Italian language had received all its splendour, in *Dante*, *Boccaccio* & *Petrarca*. For two centuries after them, most Italian-writers followed their steps with, perhaps, even too great a degree of servility; so that, although nothing singularly beautiful then appeared, yet no vicious manner of stile had taken place; mediocrity seems to have then characterised the works of the Italians. At last, however, the æra arrived, which has been called the golden age of the Italian language. Pope Leo X. who was no less inclined to letters, and generous to the literati, than Augustus, and was the promoter of learning and of arts in his dominions, had the pleasure to see flourish around him eminent writers, which, both in number and in quality, might be compared with the sublime geniuses that surrounded the throne of the Roman emperor. Epic poetry reached there to the

pitch of its glory by the immortal poem of *Ludovico Ariosto*, whom Italy has had no difficulty to compare to Homer. The same author, in the comic and the satiric, revived the beauty of Terence and of Horace. The Italian bucolic, by the means of *Sannazaro*, appeared adorned with new graces and in a new dress; and from the pen of the same author was seen, for the first time, the Latin piscatorial poetry, of which only a hint had been given in a short idyllium by Theocritus. *Bembo* then taught the manner of imitating Petrarca, and the same *Bembo*, together with *Castiglione*, and *Casa*, attained a new manner of writing nobly and elegantly in Italian prose. Many other fine geniuses enriched Italy with most excellent works both in prose and verse, in Latin and Italian. At that time *Torquato Tasso* was eminently conspicuous; and has acquired no less fame for his works in prose, than for his poems, pastoral, lyric, and epic, in all of which he excelled *Bernardo Tasso* his father, who was a very good poet, himself; but knowing how little poetry was compatible with an easy life, wished to have his son follow the more lucrative profession of the law, but in vain. At nineteen years of age *Torquato* published *Il Rinaldo*; a poem, in which, receding both from the stile of his father, and from that of *Ariosto*, he paved his way to the immortal poem of the *Gerusalemme Liberata*, which he afterwards published at a riper age. He endeavoured to transfuse into it the greatness of thoughts, and the harmonious numbers of Virgil, with whom it is generally esteemed he deserves to be compared. But as Latin poetry, which having reached its highest per-

fection in the Æneid of Virgil, began from that period gradually to decline, it happened likewise that the Italian poetry, having attained its full beauties in *Taſso*, afterwards declined very much from its dignity, even in his own life time. His imitators, making a bad use of his elegancies, began to diſſeminate in their works the seeds of a particular manner of thinking, which approached too much to reflection; and, as it very often happens, every one was ſtriving to introduce some novelty, and endeavouring not to be surpaſsed in merit by those who had anticipated them in time. Upon a strict examination of *Taſso's* own works, it will appear that traces are to be found in them of the *concetti* and overstreached metaphors, in one word, of the corrupted stile which became so universal in the seventeenth century. It may be added to this that the idiom of the Spaniſh language, Spain at that time domineering over the greatest part of Italy, admitted of such a turn of thought, and such a kind of phraseology, as somewhat approaches to the above mentioned manner; so true it is that nations become easily reconciled to the customs of those who govern them; as likewise that what may be admitted as an ornament in one language, not only will not be proper, but even will be a fault in another.

To be continued.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MISS SEWARD TO DR BOSWELL, ON THE SUBJECT OF DR JOHNSON.

For the Bee.

The following dialogue was obligingly communicated to the Editor, by a gentleman of first eminence in the literary world, with an assurance of his having many reasons to be satisfied that it is a genuine performance of the lady whose name it bears. Mr Boswell has given a much less interesting or characteristic account of this dialogue in the second volume of his life of Johnson, p. 231.

You ask me for the minutes I once made of a certain conversation which passed at Mr Dilly's in a literary party; and in which Dr Johnson and Mrs Knowles disputed so warmly? As you seem to have an idea of inserting this dispute in your future meditated work, the life of Dr Johnson, it is necessary that something should be known concerning the young person who was the subject of it.

Miss Jenny Harry was, for she is now no more, the daughter of a rich planter in the West Indies, who sent her to England to receive her education, at the house of his friend Mr ———, where an ingenious quaker lady, Mrs Knowles, was frequently a visitor. This gentleman affected wit, and was perpetually rallying Mrs Knowles on the subject of her quaker principles, in the presence of this young, gentle, and ingenuous Miss Harry, who, at the age of eighteen, had received what is called a proper and polite education, without having been much instructed in the nature and grounds of her religious belief. Mrs Knowles was often led into a serious defence of her devotional opinions, upon those visits

at Barn Elms. You know with what clear and graceful eloquence she speaks on every subject. Her antagonists were shallow theologists, and opposed only idle and pointless raillery to duty, and long studied reasoning, on the precepts of scripture, delivered in persuasive accents and harmonious language.

Without any design of making a proselyte, she gained one. Miss Harry grew very serious, and meditated perpetually on all that had dropped from the lips of her quaker friend, till it appeared to her that quakerism was true christianity. Believing this, she thought it her duty to join, at every hazard of worldly interest, that class of worshippers. On declaring these sentiments, several worthy and ingenious clergymen were employed to talk and to argue with her; but we all know the force of first impressions in theology, and Mrs Knowles's arguments were the first she had listened to on this important theme. This young lady was reasoned with and threatened in vain. She persisted in resigning her splendid expectations, for what appeared to her the path of duty. Her father, on being informed of her changing her principles, told her that she might choose between one hundred thousand pounds and his favour, if she continued a church woman, or two thousand pounds and his renunciation, if she embraced the quaker tenets. She lamented her father's displeasure, but thanked him for the pecuniary alternative, assuring him that it included all her wishes in point of fortune. She soon after left her guardian's house, and boarded in that of Mrs Knowles, to whom she often observed, that Dr Johnson's displeasure, (whom

she had often seen at her guardian's house, and who had always been fond of her) was amongst the greatest mortifications of her situation; and once she came home in tears, and told her friend 'She had met Dr Johnson in the street, and had ventured to ask him how he did; but that he would not deign to speak to her, but passed scornfully on.' She added, 'you and he are to meet soon in a literary party. Plead for me.'

You remember our all dining together at Mr Dilly's; and the conversation after dinner, which began with Mrs Knowles saying:

"I am to intreat thy indulgence, doctor, towards a gentle female, to whom thou used to be kind; and who is unhappy in the loss of that kindness. Jenny Harry weeps at the consciousness that thou wilt not speak to her.'"

'Madam, I hate the odious wench, and desire you will not talk to me about her.'

"Yet what is her crime, doctor?"

'Apostacy, madam!—apostacy from the community in which she was educated.'

"Surely, doctor, the quitting one community for another, cannot in itself be a crime, if it be done from a motive of conscience. Hadst thou been educated in the Romish church, I must suppose thou wouldst have abjured its errors, and that there would have been merit in the abjuration."

'Madam, if I had been educated in the Romish church, I believe I should have questioned my right to quit the religion of my forefathers. Well, therefore, may I hate the arrogance of a young wench,

that sets herself up for a judge of theological points, and deserts the religion in whose bosom she was nurtured.'

" I hope she has not done so. I hope the name of christian is not denied to sectaries."

' If the name is not, Madam, the common sense is.'

" I will not dispute that point with thee;—it would carry me too far. Suppose it granted, that, in the eyes of a simple girl, the weaker arguments appeared the strongest, her want of judgement demands thy *pity*, not thy *anger*."

' Madam, it has my *anger*, and always shall have it.'

" Consider, doctor, she must be sincere. What a noble fortune has she sacrificed!"

' Madam!—madam!—I have ever taught myself to consider that the association of folly cannot extenuate guilt.'

" Ah, doctor, can we suppose the Deity will not pardon a defect of judgement, if such it be, in the breast, where the desire of serving him, according to its idea, in spirit, and in truth, has been a preferable consideration to that of worldly interest."

' Madam, I pretend not to set bounds to the mercy of the Deity; but I hate the wench;—and shall ever hate her. I hate all impudence; but the impudence of a chit's apostacy, I nauseate.'

" Alas! doctor, Jenny Harry is the most timid creature breathing. She trembles to have offended her parent, though far removed from his presence; she grieves to have offended her guardian; and, per-

haps, she grieves yet more to have offended Dr Johnson, whom she loved, admired, and honoured."

'Why then, madam, did she not consult the man she pretends to admire, to love, and to honour, upon her new fangled scruples? If she had looked up to that man, with any part of that respect she professes, she would have supposed his ability to judge of fit and right, at least equal to that of a raw wench just out of her primer.'

"Ah, doctor, remember, that it was not from amongst the wise and learned that Christ selected his disciples. Jenny thinks Dr Johnson great and good; but she also thinks the gospel demands a simpler form of worship than that of the established church; and that it is not wit or eloquence to supersede the force of what appears to her a plain and regular system, which conceals all typical and mysterious ceremonies as fruitless and even idolatrous; and asks only simple obedience, and the homage of a devout heart."

'The homage of a fool's head, you should have said, madam, if you will pester me about this ridiculous wench.'

"Suppose her ridiculous, she has been religious and sincere. Will the gates of heaven be shut to ardent and well meaning folly, whose first consideration has been that of apprehended duty?"

'Pho! Pho! Who says they will, madam?'

"Then if heaven does not shut its gates, shall man shut his heart? If the Deity accept the homage of such as sincerely serve him, under every form of worship, Dr Johnson, and this little simple girl will,

it is to be hoped, meet in a blefsed eternity, whither earthly animosities must not be carried."

'Madam, I am not fond of meeting *fools* any where. They are detestable company; and while it is in my power to avoid conversing with them, I certainly shall exert that power: And so you may tell the *odious* wench, whom you have persuaded to believe herself a saint, and whom soon, I suppose, you will convert into a preacher. But I will take care she does not preach to me.'

The loud and very angry manner, in which he thundered out these replies, affrighted us all, except yourself, who justly, not sarcastically, smiled at his injustice. I remember you whispered me, "I never saw this mighty lion so chaffed before."

REMARKS ON THUNDERPROOF's ESSAYS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HAVE no objection to the strictures of your correspondent Thunderproof, in general. The abuses he points out deserve the severest reprehension; and the war system he so pointedly condemns, ought to be reprobated by every human being who has the smallest pretensions to common sense. In these respects I heartily concur with this gentleman. But I do not so cordially approve of his many attempts, by indirect innuendoes, to depreciate the constitution of this country. And I think, Sir, that you, in your editorial capacity, are not quite free from blame, for permitting them to have access into your Bee. If you

wiſh to raise the character of your work, permit the most unbounded freedom of discuſsion where politeneſs and truth are observed. But guard, above all things, against censures of any kind of *legal* establiſhments, where these censures are not clearly authoriſed by the strictest reasoning from the facts and premises adduced.

Now, Sir, it appears to me, that from some innate prejudice, probably imbibed in his youth, your ingenious correspondent frequently departs from strict accuracy of reasoning, when he thinks he can get a wipe either at the constitution of this country, or at the family of Brunswick, towards whom, he seems to have no friendly bias. Neither am I a bigot in favour of either of these; nor ſhould I have any objection to expose the defects of the one or of the other, where this could tend to any good purpose, and where these defects could be fairly attributed to either of them, and not to circumstances that only chance to be incidentally connected with them. I have ever thought that Hume and Gibbon have demeaned themselves exceedingly, by their continual attempts to attribute the common weakneſses of humanity, which are to be found among all claſses of men, the one, to the clerical order in general, and the other to those who profeſs the Christian religion in particular. Did ever a man of sound understanding believe that any kind of institution or profeſsion of faith, could so far overcome human paſsions as to insure angelic perfection among all the members of any community?

Upon the same plan with these *respectable* patterns, proceeds your redoubtable correspondent, Thunder-

proof. When he discovers that men in power have abused it, he is ever ready with some insinuation against the constitution, or family of Hanover; Does this man believe that ever there was, or is, or ever will be a constitution of government that can effectually guard against excesses in those who have power under its authority? If he does, I should be very happy to see such a constitution pointed out; for I have been in search of it for more than twenty years, and have not been able to find it. He will not, I presume, even allege that a popular form of government can do it; for he is evidently a man of parts, and has read the history of the ancient republics of Greece and Rome; and must have observed the terrible evils to which their form of government perpetually gave birth. He is able also to foresee that the chief evils of which he himself complains, originate as much in the democratical part of our constitution as in any thing else. He knows that no minister can keep his seat long at the helm of affairs in Britain, unless he has the favour of the people at large. Let him examine the conduct of Chatham, of North, and of Pitt, with this view. If he does not see that each of these ministers held their places, only as long as the nation at large approved of their conduct, I shall give up the argument. By what means did Mr Pitt obtain his place, when Fox and his party were ousted? He will answer, by the favour of the people: And justly. By what means does Mr Pitt now hold his place? By the favour of the people. Thunderproof well knows, that, had it not been for fear of losing that favour,

the armament against Russia last year had not been abandoned as it was.

He will therefore admit that the favour of the people is irresistible in Britain; and of consequence that the democratic part of our constitution is the most powerful. Now I ask, again, how that favour is best to be obtained? The *multitude*, it is well known, can neither examine with attention, nor reason with accuracy. *They* cannot compare actions with promises, nor are they able to discover the most striking inconsistencies in conduct; as the experience of every day most clearly proves: And, as to reasoning, let Thunderproof read the debates in parliament and draw his conclusions. Does he not there see that the most forcible arguments are set aside by a parcel of quibbling words, that mean nothing? and that what he, and other persons of sense, would deem unworthy of any notice, is cried up *by the multitude*, when it proceeds from their favourite for the time, as productions surpassing, in energy and every desirable quality, all other human compositions? Let him not tell me it is a corrupt parliament that does all this. Unless the minister has as fully the approbation of the people at large, as of parliament, he must immediately lose his seat.

Since, then, the *multitude* are so easily misled by specious arts, I would ask whether a nation, that is to be governed entirely by the *popular* voice, has the best chance to be governed by honest men or by rascals? The answer is clear;—by rascals assuredly. For it is these only who will descend to the despicable arts of deception and falsehood, to obtain popular ap-

plause; (read Shakespeare's Coriolanus, which exhibits as faithful a picture as ever was drawn of the talents required for attaining popular favour.) In vain do men of sense discover the fallacy of the arguments of the favourite of the day, and expose the duplicity of his conduct. The people, whilst the fascination lasts, attribute these efforts to sinister motives, and he is idolized the more. Why, I pray, are so many individuals displeased at Mr Thunderproof's writings, but that they think they have an indirect tendency to sap the foundations of the popularity of their present favourite?

It is the fashion at present to think that in matters of government the voice of the *people* must be infallibly right. But are not the *people* equally capable of judging aright in other matters as in that of government? Is the popularity of a quack doctor always strictly proportioned to his knowledge in the medical art? Are those preachers who are most distinguished for their knowledge, the greatest favourites of the people? Was it not the *unerring* voice of the people that conferred unlimited power upon the pontiff of Rome for so many ages? Fy upon it! Can men who think, can men who read, can men who reason, for one moment act with so little consistency as to assert that the multitude ever can be governed by reason? It has ever been with them *Hosanna* or *crucify*, merely as the whim struck them at the moment.*. Yet think not, my good Sir, that though I

* Nothing is so generally detested as *favouritism* in regal governments, and justly; but a popular government is one uninterrupted system of favouritism. The creature of the day, though too often destitute of virtue, or any amiable quality, is perpetually idolized as a God; and

am not for deifying the people, that I wish to endow princes or their minions with a similar power. Thunderproof has my most perfect concurrence when he, in his own pointed manner, exposes the vile arts by which princes and ministers impose upon the people. It is by watching those in power, by developing the plans they adopt for effecting their wicked purposes, and by exposing their errors to public view, that the idolatry, which the people are ever disposed to pay to those in power, can be abated and their power circumscribed. But hard is the task, and difficult to be accomplished. Against the minister, who has obtained the popular favour at the time, reason exerts her voice in vain. In a free government, however, wise men may still exalt their voice against the highest, though, like Cassandra, they may, for a time, raise that warning voice in vain. But in a *popular* state, what man dares but whisper a word against the demagogue of the day, or plead the cause of him who has become the object of popular hate? Happy then may be deemed that nation where no one can be so highly in favour either with the king or with

though his triumph may some times be but of short duration, he is only pulled down to make way for a new favourite equally immaculate with himself. There is just this difference between the government of Turkey and that of a democratic state, that, in the first, the people voluntarily, avowedly, and without reserve, confer upon the despot their favour for life. If he displeases them they cut off his head, and place another in his room. Whereas, in the latter case, the demagogue is endowed with equal power, though the people deceive themselves by saying they do every thing themselves. In the first case, like a hen pecked husband, they tamely, and without blushing, submit to the rod. In the last, they resemble the taylor, who, though obliged to creep under the bed to avoid the fury of his wife, peeped out in an interval of relaxation, and proudly boasted she could not deprive him at least of his *manly* looks.

the people, as to be above the imputation of blame, or be sunk so low as not to admit of having his cause pleaded by a friend! Fortunate are the people when they have it not in their power to silence their best instructors! Bleſsed is the state when the peacemaker can raise his voice without fear, and dares to allay that fury, which, if unrestrained, leads either to implicit obedience, or raſh deeds of barbarism, that makes the heart to ſhudder! It is in this state of things, only, that perfect political freedom can be enjoyed. Long, then, may ſuch writers as Thunderproof be permitted to exert their talents. A fooliſh proclamation may be disregarded, while the law can be enforced. But who ſhall set limits to the power of a headstrong populace, when they believe that they are authorised to decide *?

ALCIBIADES.

ON ANTIQUITIES IN SCOTLAND.

Continued from p. 134.

VITRIFIED FORTIFICATIONS.

I AM much disposed to believe that vitrified fortifications have been entirely a Britiſh invention, and think it probable that the art was never carried out

* That impartiality on which the Editor piques himself, induces him to insert the above. He is not conscious that the charges against either himself or his correspondent are well founded. He does not pretend to adopt the opinions of his respective correspondents. His aim is only to guard against admitting any thing that he thinks can have a pernicious tendency, and to do full justice to the arguments of his correspondents. Controversy he must avoid, but a difference of opinion, where that is expreſsed with temper, even where it militates against his own, he ſhall ever cheriſh. It is in consequence of such differences in opinion that truth can best be attained.

of this country. That it was not known by the Danes, at least, seems extremely probable, from a curious fact that I shall now take notice of; and if it was not known by the Danes, it seems probable, that it would not be known by the other northern nations on the continent. The fact I allude to is as follows:

It is well known that the Danes made frequent inroads into Scotland, for several centuries, with various degrees of success. During that period they seized upon a peninsulated rock in the Murray frith, about four miles from Elgin, which is now called *Brough-head*. As this was a place naturally strong, and formed besides a kind of harbour, by means of which supplies could be brought to it by sea, they thought it a very convenient station to be occupied as a place of arms, and accordingly fortified it for that purpose. Three large and deep parallel ditches were drawn across the neck of the isthmus that joined it to the land; and within the innermost of these a large wall has been erected, which has been continued quite round the peninsula, as the ruins of it at this day clearly show.

The circumstance that made me here take notice of this Danish fortification, is, that all the stones on the outside of the wall, appear to have been scorched in the fire in so much that they appear almost as red, on that side, as bricks, although the stone is naturally of a very white kind, and some of them are almost burnt to a powder. Between these stones, on digging among the ruins of the wall, is found a good deal of reddish dust, exactly resembling dry clay, that has been burnt to ashes. But in no part of this fortification is there the smallest appearance of vitrified matter, and the stones in the inside are every where of their natural

our.

From these circumstances it appears to me extremely probable, that the Danes, from having seen, in their incursions, some of the vitrified fortifications, have admired the invention, and wished to imitate them. We may suppose they might have been able to learn in general that they consisted of walls of stone, intermixed with dry clay in powder, which was afterwards converted into a vitrified mass by surrounding the whole with a stack of wood, or other combustibles, and then setting it on fire. But having been ignorant of the necessity of employing only that particular substance already described, which, from its general appearance, might be, on some occasions, mistaken for a kind of clay, they have probably taken some ordinary clay and employed that in its stead. But as ordinary clay is hardly at all vitrescible, they have not been able to succeed in their attempt; but, instead of that, the stones, by the great heat applied to them, have been scorched in the manner they now appear, and the clay between them has been burnt to ashes. This so perfectly accounts for the peculiarity observable in the ruined walls of this fortification, and it is so difficult to assign any other reason for the singular appearance of them, that I could not avoid throwing this probable conjecture to direct towards other researches.

Although it is only of late that the real nature of these vitrified walls has been known, it is long since the vitrified matter has been observed; but it was always supposed that these were the natural production of volcanoes; from whence it was inferred that volcanoes had been very common in Scotland, at some very distant period. But if no better proof can be adduced

in support of this last hypothesis it will hardly be admitted.

From the foregoing account it appears, that these works are purely artificial. At the same time it must be owned, that the natural appearance of the places where these vitrified masses are usually found, is well calculated to favour the opinion that they have been produced by volcanoes.

The vitrified matter is usually first discovered by travellers around the bottom, and on the sides of steep hills, frequently of a conical shape, terminating in a narrow *apex*, exactly resembling the hills that have been formed by the eruptions of a volcano. It is therefore very natural to think that these may have been produced in the same way.

Let us suppose that a traveller, strongly impressed with this idea, should resolve to examine the top of the mountain more nearly, and, for this purpose, ascends to the summit; would not his former conjecture be much confirmed, when, at the top, he should find himself in a circular hollow, surrounded on all sides by matter, rising gradually higher, to the very edge of the precipice, which is there entirely environed with vitrified matter, of the same kind with that he had found at the bottom? Could such a man be called unreasonably credulous, if he should be induced by so many concurring circumstances to believe that this had been a real volcano? But would he not be reckoned sceptical in extreme, if he should entertain the smallest doubt of the truth of this opinion, if he likewise sees the very opening itself in the centre of the hollow, through which the boiling *lava* had been spewed out. Yet strong as all these appearances are, we know

that they may, and actually do, all concur, on many occasions, to favour the deceit. The formation of the hollow bason has been already explained; and the well, with which every one of these forts has been provided, and which is still discoverable in all of them, though, for the most part, now filled up with stones to prevent accidents, might very readily be mistaken for the mouth of the volcano.

In these circumstances, a casual visitor may be excused if he should believe in such strong appearances, without inquiring minutely into the matter. But a philosophical inquirer, who resolved coolly to investigate the matter, would soon find reason to suspect that he might be mistaken. The vitrified masses themselves are of a nature extremely different from real *lava*; so different, indeed, that nothing but the difficulty of accounting for the way in which they could be otherwise produced, would ever have occasioned them to be confounded with one another. In real *lava*, the heat has been so intense as to fuse almost all matters, and reduce them into one homogeneous mass; but in the matter of which we now treat, the heat has been so slight as to vitrify scarce any of the stones, but barely to fuse the vitrescible matter that was interposed between them; which, alone, points out a very essential difference between the nature of the two. But if he should proceed farther in this investigation, he would also discover, on digging into the hill in any part, that no *lava*, or any other matters that show marks of having been in the fire, are to be found; but that they consist of rock, or other strata of mineral matter, similar to what is found in other parts of the country. Nei-

ther has there ever been found in Scotland any appearance of pumice stones, nor large beds of ashes like those which are always found in the neighbourhood of volcanoes. There is not (for the most part) even any appearance of *basaltes* in the neighbourhood of these fortified hills; a substance which is now thought to be invariably generated by volcanoes alone, although it does not seem that the proofs, upon which this opinion is founded, are so conclusive as to leave no room to doubt of the fact. Unfortunately, too, for Scotland, the parallel fails in another respect; for, instead of the extraordinary fertility of soil that for the most part is found near volcanoes, we here find that sterility, which is invariably produced by the vitrescible iron ore, above alluded to, wherever it abounds.

If this account of the *artificial* curiosities found in the Highlands of Scotland, should afford you any entertainment, I may, perhaps, on some future occasion, make a few observations on the *natural* curiosities of these unknown regions, which are more numerous, and more generally interesting to philosophic inquirers than the former. I know no way in which a philosopher, who wants to view nature undisguised, and to trace her gradual progress for successive ages, could do it with half so much satisfaction as in the Highlands of Scotland. Half a day's ride there would do more to give such an inquirer a proper idea of the changes produced on this globe, and the means by which they are effected, than twenty years study in the closet could produce; as any one who shall attentively view these, after reading the writings of Buffon, will readily allow.

To be continued.

VERSES TO SENSIBILITY, ON HEARING THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE MUSE RIDICULED.

For the Bee.

Puridas pueri doctos et ornate poetas,
Aurea nec supererit, munera pieridis. TIBULLUS.

I.

Let him whom taste and genius have not blest,
Despise the tender extacies that roll
In mingled tumults thro' the poet's breast,
And swell to rapture his exalted soul.

II.

Let him whose heart is tutor'd to forego,
Alike the sounds of *pleasure* and of *pain*;
Let him despise the soul that melts at woe,
And throbs with pleasure at another's gain.

III.

I envy 'm not dull apathy's cold blast,
That chills the slumb'ring passions '*noble rage*;'
And bids, without a sigh, indiff'rence cast
A blot o'er fancy's and o'er mem'ry's page.

IV.

But Oh thou parent of the muse I love,
To *me* thy magic influence impart;
And all these sweet vibrations that but move
To soften and to humanize the heart!

V.

To *me* let not the joy encircled spring
Unheeded lead along her smiling train;
Nor rosy Flora from her glitt'ring wing,
Profusely shake Elysian blooms in vain.

VI.

To *me*, array'd in summer's fairest pride,
Let not the landscape vainly glow serene;
Nor autumn lavish round from side to side,
Her golden harvests o'er the peaceful scene.

VII.

Ev'n still be mine the joy sublime, to hail
The tempests of the sky which winter pours;
When rushing wildly thro' the delug'd vale,
From the bleak hill the foaming torrent pours.

VIII.

Nor yet, ungrateful, let me e'er erase
The blissful days of peace for ever past;
Nor mem'ry's busy hand forget to trace
The hours of joy which flew, alas! how fast!

IX.

Dear, happy hours! when o'er my raptur'd mind
The magic scenes of nature burst sublime;
And hopeleſs, in despair, the muse resign'd
Her pencil to the rip'ning hand of TIME.

X.

Scarce leſs her thrilling transports than when now
Her airy dreams of Pindus ſhe pourtrays;
While youthful fancy bids the picture glow,
And scatters o'er it her redundant rays.

XI.

Ye pow'rs, divine, while, glorying in his pride,
The *stoic* boasts a heart which nought can move;
A flinty heart,—which cold, and yet untried,
Ne'er felt the glow of *friendſhip* or of *love*.

XII.

Give *me* (what *he alone* could e'er refuse)
A soul susceptible of *joy* and *pain*;
To taste the converse of th' angelic muse,
And scorn the arts of *pride and uſeleſs gain*. G. C.

SONNET.

For the Bee.

SWEET smells the fragrant morn with dew,
And pearly drops refreſh each flow'r;
Each creeping ſhrub and spreading yew
Sip the sweet perfume in the bow'r.

All nature smiles with joy around,
The sun returns and all is gay;
Yet still to man no peace is found,
His schemes and joys flee fast away.

Each scene and season he revolves,
Is still a mix'd and muddy stream,
Still heavy grief his soul diſsolves,
Tho' peace but seldom darts a gleam.

To thee, O Hope! celestial maid,
Serene we look for peace above;
To thee, O let my vows be paid,
Thou art the pow'r of peace and love.

Before thy ſhrine the lovers bend,
The hero pours his panting soul;
To courts, to huts thy bleſsings send,—
'Tis thou alone supports the soul. M.

REVIEW OF INDIA,

OR REFLECTIONS ON THE MEASURES THAT FRANCE OUGHT TO ADOPT RELATIVE TO ITS POSSESSIONS IN INDIA.

Paris, printed by Didot, sen. 1790, 8*vo. containing* 140 *p. French.*

One of the most important questions of French politics is treated of in this work, whose author is not named. By a note it appears, that it is a person employed in some office of administration. To write on this subject, he has, without doubt, studied very minutely the French interest in Asia; and has, from the situation of our affairs in this quarter of the globe, penetrated into the views and measures of the native princes, the strength and resources of the Engliſh nation, leſs powerful than the French nation in America, its rival in Europe, and superior in Asia.

It is generally agreed, says the author, in an advertisement, that, to expect and to obtain great succeſses beyond the Cape of Good Hope, it is neceſsary to have in that quarter, a principal establiſhment, where we may concenter great military forces in time of peace. Of those belonging to us, Pondicherry, and the Isle of France, are the only places that claim the preference for this purpose; and each of these has its zealous partizans, and even enthusiasts, who regard each as susceptible of an exclusive preference.

The king's council has already pronounced in favour of the Isle of France; but Pondicherry has presented to the national aſsembly the most spirited remonstrances against this decision. It is to this supreme tribunal, that holds today in its hands the fortune of France, that we must submit the impartial discuſsion of this great political question. Indebted to it for all the useful truths that we have been

able to collect, we shall never forget any detail which can throw light on the great views with which it ought to be animated.

The author reduces the examination of the whole question to these two points, which form the two parts of his work. 1st. What is the political advantage of the Isle of France, since the termination of last war? 2d. What degree of importance ought government to connect with the politics of India? Ought government to attempt, at the same time, a project offensive to the Isle of France, and another defensive to Pondicherry?

The three last wars are those of 1744, 1756, and 1778. The author gives an exact summary of the operations of France in India, during these wars.

However short this summary be, one there sees the faults of the India company in the two first. The misconduct of several chiefs, and of administration, in all the bravery and the success of other commanders. La Bourdonne, the chief promoter of the establishment of the Isle of France, discovered his genius, made use of his resources, and shewed the greatest intrepidity in the war of 1744. If his temper could have bent to have owned the power of Dupleix, and to plan measures with a man of his character, France would have acquired an immense empire in India. Lally, governor of Pondicherry, and commander of the land forces, was without doubt culpable of prevarication; after his condemnation, it appears that he was ill supported in the war of 1756. De Suffrein acquired immortal glory in that of 1778, who reinstated us in India, nearly in the condition in which we were in 1763. From the recitals of the author, it is easy to infer, that it is by the Isle of France, that the French and Dutch have been succoured in India during these wars; and that moreover, we would have been indebted to this precious isle for a great

superiority if our operations had been better planned and conducted.

The author informs us that he owes the map of India, annexed to his work, and the geographical details that it contains, as well as the greater part of the historical facts, to a military gentleman, distinguiſhed for his talents, as well as for his impartiality, and who has travelled with advantage in India, during the last war.

At the peace of 1762, the Engliſh restored to France Pondicherry, Carical, *&c.* which could no longer be of ſervice to the extension of their commerce. It was evident that France kept poſſeſſion of these, only because it had conceived the project of a military eſtabliſhment in India. They preferred Pondicherry notwithstanding the danger of its being too near Madras. They wiſhed to rebuild this city, which was only a heap of rubbiſh. Instead of diminiſhing it, to fortify it the more easily, they laboured to rebuild it on the former plan. Difficulties having arisen in constructing the works, permitted them to finiſh only 900 fathoms of the fortification; there remained 4500 to inclose the place when M. de Bellecombe arrived to succeed M. de Laurieston, as governor: That is to say, a little before the Engliſh, who could have nothing more than conjectures of the approaching rupture, came to beſiege Pondicherry, M. de Bellecombe defended himself some time, notwithstanding the condition of the place; but he was forced to yield. The remainder of the French poſſeſſions in India were soon taken.

It appears incredible that Pondicherry, being situated in the centre of the Engliſh forces in India, they ſhould have allowed France the time and liberty to fortify it so as to be in a state to rival their power. Supposing the French government had made exertions of which it is not capable; supposing that the men whom it employed to ex-

ecute the plans resolved upon, had properly understood one another; had, in conjunction, planned their measures; had been, in short, endowed with the knowledge necessary to prevent the commission of a single mistake, in either the project or execution, the English minister is too penetrating, too active, and has too many means of disconcerting an enterprize of this kind, at pleasure, which could not be supported with an army equal to what they have in India. According to the partisans of Pondicherry, our fortune in India depends upon the possession of this place. Nothing can be performed in India without having there a landing place where they can form magazines and hospitals. This is for want of having studied the politics of India in India, that they are mistaken in the instructions given to their generals. They ought to oppose this policy to the formidable power of the English.

The author, to answer this objection, which, if not well founded, is at least ungenerous, traces the military and political map of the powers of India, with which we are any way connected. This method is a kind of analysis of all Indostan, a vast country, divided into several states, *viz* the English East India company; the successor of Hyder Alican, the great Marhattas, the Subah of the Decan, the little Marhattas, and the Mogul. Among these powers the English East India company is indisputably the first, whether considered in a military or a commercial point of view, or as possessing an immense extent of territory. We are informed for certain, that the English have just now in India 13000 European troops, and perhaps 100,000 seapoys. We shall not follow the author in enumerating the countries that this company and the other powers possess, nor in the muster of their forces in infantry, cavalry, and artillery. It is indeed astonishing that the Mogul empire should shut up the rear. Its immense extent once contained Indostan and the peninsula; but such is its

real weakneſs by its divisions and decay, that one can scarcely claſs it among the military powers of the peninsula.

There are, besides, some other sovereigns in Indostan; but they cannot make a figure among those just now mentioned; however, the author enumerates such as merit any attention. After having stated the interests of each, he ſhews the situation of India, as having still been in a tottering condition since the departure of Dupleix, the only person perhaps who understood the moral connection of affairs in this part of the world. They are wrong to establiſh projects upon a foundation so unsteady. 'An excellent general, a good economist of an army, numerous forces, money sufficient for two campaigns; such is the true politics to secure a triumph in Asia; these can supply the place of every other, and when the commander by sea ſhall have defeated the fleet of the enemy, and when the commander in chief by land ſhall have taken Madras or Bombay, that will be the time for the Indian nations to study our politics, which, in this case, must regulate theirs.'

The work concludes with an advice of sound philosophy and excellent policy.

'Let us be cautious not to frighten the princes of India, by a rage for great territorial poſseſsions. What interest can they take in our efforts, if we wiſh to expell the Engliſh only to put ourselves in their stead? The true conqueror of this rich part of the world, ſhall be the man, who, after having deprived his rivals of the dominions that they have invaded, ſhall restore these to the princes who ought to poſseſs them, and who ſhall annex no other terms to the resignation of these territories, except the stipulation of trade in his favour, with a liberty to admit, under moderate restrictions, the other powers of Europe. Let us be this conqueror. Let us set the world this example; it will be as glorious as beneficial. It is worthy of Frenchmen.'

We have inserted the above chiefly with a view to let our countrymen see what were, in general, the ideas of a sensible Frenchman two years ago, respecting Indian politics. Among many circumstances that have since happened, to excite compaſsion in the breast of casual observers respecting the GLORY, as we have vainly stiled it, of the French nation, ſhe may congratulate herſelf in not being able to carry into effect those seductive plans of foreign aggrandisement which ſhe has so long cheriſhed. When ſhall Britain have the good fortune to be unable to extend her plundering arms beyond her own little isle! for we fear it will be inability, alone, that will ever teach her that her prosperity can be most effectually promoted by domestic industry alone.

ANECDOTE.

THE late honourable judge Sewell went into a hatter's ſhop one day, in order to procure a pair of second hand bruſhes, for the purpose of cleaning his ſhoes. The master of the ſhop presented him with a couple which had become unfit for his own use. "What is your price?" says the judge: 'If they answer your purpose,' replies the other, 'you may have them, and welcome.' The judge hearing this, laid them down on the plank, and with a graceful bow directly went out at the door. At which the mechanic said to him: 'Pray, Sir, your honour has forgotten the principal design of your visit.' "By no means," replies the judge, "If you please to set your price, I stand ready to purchase. But ever since it has fallen to my lot to occupy a seat on the bench, I have studiously avoided receiving a single copper by way of donation, lest in some future period of my life, it might have some kind of influence in determining my judgement.

Acknowledgements to correspondents omitted for want of room.

THE BEE,

OF

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20. 1792.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCADIA AT ROME, WITH A SKETCH OF THE STATE OF LITERATURE IN ITALY FOR THESE LAST THREE CENTURIES. BY ABBE TOURNER, TEACHER OF LANGUAGES, EDINBURGH, AUTHOR OF THE ANECDOTES OF POPE GANGANELLI, *&c.*

Continued from p. 199.

AFTER *Taſso* appeared the *cavalier Giambattista Marini*, who was, by nature, endowed with all the gifts neceſsary to form an excellent poet. His underſtanding was quick and methodical; his verses ſoft and harmonious; he had a perſpicuity in his ſtile, joined to the most lively graces, and the most tender allurements, ſo as to command the paſsions. He was ſufficiently acquainted with ſcience, and abundantly ſtored with erudition. His first appearance in poetry, was ſo ſplendid, that it was like to obliterate the fame of all those who had gone before him in Italian poetry. He made use in his *Poesie Boſchereccie, e Marittime*, of ſo laudable a moderation in his ſtile, that, it must be allowed, the greatest part of these pieces may ſerve as examples to those who

wiſh to write on pastoral, or piscatorial subjects. The applause and good reception which this his first production experienced puffed up his spirits, and his stile, the purity of which in his *heroic*, *moral*, and *sacred* poems is entirely altered. His *idylliums* and *epithalamiums* are full of extravagancies; as likewise his famous poem of *Adone*, which has many great beauties, but so filled up, as his other small poems, with strange turns of phrases, with many false ideas, or *concetti*, and with such tedious verbosity, that it is sufficient to disgust any one, who has formed his taste on the pure models of the Greek, Latin, and best Italian authors. Yet *Marini's* fame daily increased, and, for a whole century, the Italian poets contended among themselves who could write, either in prose or in verse, in a stile still more extravagant than his. *Fulvio Testi*, and *Gabriello Chiabrera*, who flouriſhed in this time, may be in some measure excepted. For though they are not free from faults, yet they have such beauties as to make them worthy to be ranked amongst the good poets. The former, in his odes, rivals the vivacity, the truth, and the brilliancy of Horace; whilst the latter has transfused into our language the graces of Anacreon, conjoined with the fire of Pindar; and has thus introduced into the Italian poetry, that force and tenderneſs which is the distinguiſhed characteristic of the Greek poets.

Among the crowd of the *concettisti*, the first place, next to *Marini*, may be given to *Ciro di Pers*, *Girolamo Preti*, *Battisti*, and *Achillini*: This last

was so lucky that for an emphatic sonnet of his, which begins,

'*Sudate o fochi a preparar metalli.*'

in praise of Louis XIII. of France, he received, as a reward from this king, one thousand Roman crowns for each verse; that is fourteen thousand crowns for fourteen lines, full of extravagancies; so true it is that by a malignant influence on letters, when they are in the highest stage of depravation and corruption, they meet with universal applause and approbation, and the munificence of the great, whilst people are sometimes less disposed to favour them, when they are in their greatest perfection.

The compositions in prose followed the destiny of those in verse; and it is sufficient to cast one's eyes on any of the historians, or orators of those days, to observe the deplorable state into which letters had sunk. Bold and preposterous metaphors, a strangely inverted syntax, a style full of frivolous *concetti*, are the only things they can boast of, and which, towards the latter part of the last century, made the wonder of the academies, and obtained the shouts of an auditory, which never imagined they were giving only proofs of a depraved taste.

From this general corruption, however, in the *belles lettres*, are to be excepted several literati in many parts of Italy. This may be attested by the works of *Galileo Galilei*, *Vincenzio Viviani*, father *Paolo Segneri*, *Francesco Redi*, and the *Academia del Cimento*; all of which are written in a very pure stile, and according to the rules of true composition. There were, besides, others of conspicuous talents, who being in-

clined to poetry, and evidently perceiving that it had deviated from the right road, they knew but too well, that if, in their compositions, they had followed the footsteps of the good authors, it would be the same as to reject applause, and to renounce that fame which is the only reward of those who turn their mind to poetry. They took therefore to a jocose kind of composition, in order to get applause in their own days, and they interspersed their poems with the most just poetical traits, to the purpose that, when Italy should open its eyes to the true beauties of poetry, posterity might perceive that they had been free from the general corruption. Hence it came that *Antonio Malatesta* wrote his beautiful riddles in sonnets, that *Domenico Lazzarini* produced his much applauded *Centurie* of sonnets against the ridiculed *Don Ciccio*, that *Aleſsandro Taſsoni* composed the heroi-comic poem of the *Secchia rapita*, that *Francesco Bernieri* publiſhed a very regular epic poem, and interpersed with many poetical beauties in *Romanesco*, that is the common dialect of the low people of Rome, intitled *il Meo Patacca*, and *Bartolomeo Nappini*, imitating *Fidenzio*, expreſsed his sentiments in what is called *stile pedantesco*, or pedantic stile, which requires a thorough knowledge of the Latin and of the Italian languages which in this way of writing are very nicely intermixed. Several of these were alive when *Maggi* and *Lemene* in Lombardy, *Redi*, *Filicaja*, and *Menzini*, in Tuscany, *Buragna*, *Schettini*, and others in Naples, and *Vincenzo Leonio* in Rome, set about writing their poetical performances according to the rules of the ancients; but except the *Dio* of *Lemene*, the *Bacco in Toscana*

of *Redi*, and some of the *Canzoni*, or songs of *Filicaja*, their poems did not go farther than the limits of their native place, or were approved by few.

At this time Christina of Sweden, after having abdicated the throne, had come to settle in Rome. Her father, Gustavus Adolphus, had taken care to give her an education which few royal princesses can boast of, especially in her days. In laying down the sceptre, she had likewise laid aside all thoughts of war,—all notions of command; but she had not renounced that inclination, which she had cherished from her youth, of protecting letters, arts, and sciences. Hence she formed a private academy in her palace, of men conspicuous for their learning, and for their dignities, who were to meet in her presence to talk on scientific subjects. She thought afterwards that the *belles lettres*, should have in her academy a place, in order to unbend their wearied mind from too great an application to science. Two persons were chosen for the Latin poetry, and and two for the Italian; *Benedetto Menzini* and *Alessandro Guidi* were destined for the latter, and a pension asigned to them. *Menzini*, who, as I have noticed before, followed the true path of taste, did not meet with that applause which the liveliness of *Guidi* had acquired, by letting himself be carried off with the current of the age, as may be seen in a small volume of poems which he then printed, and he afterwards disapproved of himself. Emulation and disputes arose therefore between these poets, which lasted even after the death of the queen; and after that *Guidi*, observing the stile of the Arcadians, which

was every day gaining more footing, acknowledged the truth, and, preserving his former vivacity, began to think with justneſs. The two for the Latin poetry, were *Abate Michele Cappellari*, and father *Ubertino Carrara*, a Jesuit. Several poems of theirs were printed, which, on account of the unfortunate circumstance of their authors not having lived in a better age, have been condemned to be devoured by the moths, or to be made use of as wrapping paper in the grocer's or apothecary's ſhops.

Vincenzo Leonio profeſsionally attended the bar; and therefore, although remarkably eminent in the *belles lettres*, was not invited to be a member of this royal academy. However, in his hours of relaxation, he frequently composed some things in the taste of the ancient poets; and, as his manners were sweet, frank, and sincere, he easily gained the esteem and love of every person that happened to become acquainted with him. Thus several young gentlemen, though attending to different profeſsions, had joined with him in a friendly society. In the evenings, after their buſineſs was over, they used to meet in some solitary and delightful place, either within or without the walls of Rome, where, by the rehearsal of some of their performances, they enjoyed a decent, pleasant, and instructive relaxation.

Whilst this literary union of well disposed youths, under the direction of *Leonio*, was, as it were by chance, laying the foundations of a literary republic, some other sprightly geniuses requested of *Leonio*, to be admitted into this society, in order that they might, from him, and from his friends, learn what they be-

gan to find they were ignorant of; and, as his good nature would not suffer that the true manner of composing ſhould be concealed, he easily persuaded his companions to accept the offers, and the earnest intreaties of those who wiſhed to increase their number. Thus a select band was formed, of about thirty people, all inclined to write, both in prose and in verse, according to the directions of *Leonio*, who was many years older than any of his rising pupils.

Although their meetings were held in remote parts, and only in the nature of simple recreations, they could not remain so concealed, but the reputation of them was at last spread in Rome, until it came to the ears of some of the most conspicuous people. The queen of Sweden would be minutely informed about it, and finding that it was the pleasure of this literary meeting to aſsemble in the open air, and on the verdant fields, ſhe very kindly expreſsed her wiſhes that these well deserving genuises ſhould no more wander here and there, but offered them her own gardens, where they might repeat their productions in her presence. *Cardinal Azzolini* took upon himself to have her wiſhes fulfilled, and *Guidi* being acquainted with several of them, was chosen to treat the buſineſs with them. He very willingly accepted this employment; for, as he was very much inclined to domineer, by putting himself at the head of a select company, which he foresaw would soon get a high place in the literary world, he was thus in hopes to distinguiſh himself from *Menzini*, whom he considered rather as a rival than a companion. But the queen's death overturned all these fine plans; both

Guidi and *Menzini* were obliged to look out for some other provision; and *Leonio*, with his followers, continued their learned meetings in the same rambling manner as before.

However, the queen's offer suggested to them the notion of forming themselves into an academical body, which should be entirely directed, if possible, to restore good taste, and shew, by their example, the true way of composing well. To this purpose, they began expressly to form their lucubrations, wholly according to pastoral notions, imagining that, by its simplicity, this might turn out the most likely method of putting out of fashion those pompous and extravagant phrases, which, in the heroic stile, had gained the estimation of the public, and obtained universal applause. It happened that one day, some of them having met in the fields behind the castle of St Angelo, in a retired and solitary part on the banks of the river, one of the company, in a transport of pleasure, caused by the beauty of several pastoral poems, which that day happened to be in a greater number than ordinary, cried out, "*Egli mi sembra che noi abbiamo oggi rinnovata l' Arcadia.*" 'It seems to me that we have this day revived Arcadia.' Some smiled at this expression, and all of them were pleased; but none of them took any farther notice of it except *Crescimbeni*, who was one of the young gentlemen that most frequented their meetings, and was more than any of them united in friendship with *Leonio*. No sooner did he hear the name of *Arcadia*, but he thought that, from it, one might take the idea of the academy they were intending to establish.

After they had all risen from their verdant seat, to reassume their occupations in the city, *Crescimbeni* stopped behind with *Leonio*, to whom he communicated the thought which the name of Arcadia had excited in his mind. *Leonio* was very much pleased at *Crescimbeni's* proposal: they resolved to speak of it to their companions, and to endeavour that an academy should be formed, which should be called *Arcadia*; and its members should be distinguished by the denomination of *Arcadian Shepherds*. They carried on this business with great secrecy until they had regularly laid down the whole plan of this intended literary republic.

To be continued.

ON THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN.

LETTER VIII.

I am no orator as Brutus is
To stir men's blood; I only speak right on.
I tell you that which you yourselves do know.
SHAKESPEARE.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THE sum total of supplies granted by parliament during this war, extended, by Dr Smollet's account, to fifty-seven millions sterling. As to the application of this money, the same historian observes, that "Britain was at once a prey to her declared adversaries and professed friends. In 1746, she numbered, among her mercenaries, two empresses, five German princes, and a powerful monarch, whom she hired to assist her in *trimming* the balance of Europe. Had these fruitless subsidies been saved;

" had the national revenue been applied with econo-
" my to national purposes; had it been employed in
" liquidating, gradually, the public incumbrances, in
" augmenting the navy, improving manufactures,
" encouraging and securing the colonies, and extend-
" ing trade and navigation, corruption would have
" become altogether unnecessary, and disaffection
" would have vanished; the people would have been
" eased of their burdens, and ceased to complain:
" Commerce would have flourished, and produced
" such affluence as must have raised Great Britain
" to the highest pinnacle of maritime power, above
" all rivalship and competition." Instead of such measures, let us observe the picture exhibited by the same author. " Without conduct, confidence, or
" concert, Britain engages in blundering negocia-
" tions; she involves herself rashly in foreign quar-
" rels, and lavishes her substance with the most
" dangerous precipitation: She is even deserted by
" her wonted vigour, steadiness, and intrepidity:
" She grows vain, fantastical, and pusillanimous;
" her arms are despised by her enemies, and her
" councils ridiculed through all Christendom *."

Had the House of Commons possessed judgement to comprehend, or honesty to pursue, the interest of their constituents, they would have shunned, as an abyss of destruction, the war of 1739. I have computed that every able bodied man is worth, in fee simple, to the public, about three hundred pounds sterling. We have seen, that for the service of the

* Smollet, vol. xi. p. 268.

year 1748, the House of Commons voted above an hundred thousand men; and of these, forty thousand would most likely perish in the course of the campaign. To this account may be added the myriads of followers of the forces who must have been destroyed; those who were killed in the service of privateering, or in the ships captured by those of the enemy; and that immense body who lost their limbs, and instead of a service, became a burden to their country. As the war lasted for nine years, we may safely presume that, in all the various modes of destruction, three hundred thousand lives were lost; and these, at three hundred pounds each, present us with an account of human blood to the extent of NINETY MILLIONS STERLING *. Even this sum, extravagant as it may seem, is yet the smallest part of our loss; for, had these men continued in this country, their posterity would at this day, in the common course of nature, have increased the population of Britain by an addition of a million, or fifteen hundred thousand inhabitants. How much more rational and pleasing would such a prospect have been, than to sacrifice three hundred thousand victims on the altar of absurdity? I hazard this expression, because it has been fairly proved that the war itself was absolutely without an object. These unfortunate men might have been engaged to excellent purpose as masons, blacksmiths, and carpenters, in agriculture, in cutting canals and turnpike roads, or in catching

* As our forces not only suffered, but *inflicted* many terrible blows, we may state the carnage of our antagonists in an equal proportion to our own.

a part of those incredible shoals of cod, herring, and other watery tribes, which nature has with such astonishing prodigality poured on the western coasts of Scotland. An hundredth or even a thousandth part of the millions expended in this war, would have been sufficient to found a colony of fishermen in the Hebrides worth all our foreign possessions put together. But such a colony would not have answered the purposes of ministerial corruption. They would not have entangled us in a quarrel with the rest of Europe. They would not have supplied our rulers with a plausible pretence for loading the public with extravagant debts. We are forced to think that the chief object of ministers is to tear money from the very entrails of the nation, to serve the vile ends of parade and luxury, or the viler end of buying a majority in our *virtuous* House of Commons. Hence every successive administration fatigues us with a new series of absurdities. For a century past, the history of Britain * should be entitled "The progress "of Injustice conducted by Folly." Our affairs cannot, in future, be worse managed than they have been †; and on this topic it is now full time to be se-

* It might with equal propriety be said the history of *Europe*. *Edit.*

† For example, "In the course of the late war, from 1776 to 1782, "forty-six millions five hundred and fifty thousand pounds were added "to the three *per cents.* and twenty-nine millions seven hundred and "fifty thousand pounds to the four *per cents.*, making together a capital "of seventy-three millions four hundred thousand pounds, for which the "money advanced was only *forty-eight millions.*" Guthrie's Grammar, edition xi. p. 295. The writer has here committed a mistake. The two sums nominally borrowed, when added, amount to *seventy-six millions three hundred thousand pounds.* After subtracting the sums actually received, there is a balance of premium amounting to *twenty-eight millions*

rious, when every subject of Britain pays of public taxes between *two and three pounds sterling* per annum. At this rate, twenty pounds sterling are exacted every year from a family that consists of eight persons; and if the poor pay ten pounds leſs, it is equally certain that the rich must pay ten pounds more, and so in proportion. The sums which have been squandered since the revolution, upon fooliſh wars, and uſeleſs colonies, on *the balance of power*, and *the balance of trade*, would have been ten times more than sufficient for converting both Britain and Ireland into a garden. Had this been the case, our situation would have been as much superior to what it is now, as we are at present superior to those naked savages who gave battle to Julius Cæsar, on the coast of Dover, I am, *&c.*

Laurencekirk, May 31. 1792.

TIMOTHY THUNDERPROOF.

P. S. The practice of hiring foreign mercenaries, so frequently mentioned in the preceding letters, must provoke the disapprobation of every reader. If we cannot or dare not fight our own battles, what right have we to ſhed the blood of a ſhoal of wretches, driven to slaughter at so much *per* head by their worthleſs sovereign? The neceſsities of the state may, perhaps, in some cases, supersede the common obligations of morality; and a philosopher may forgive, though he cannot vindicate, the infidelity of an American congreſs, who,

three hundred thousand pounds. At three and a half *per cent.* the interest of this sum amounts to *nine hundred and ninety thousand five hundred pounds*; and this deluge of interest we continue to pay for a loan *which never was advanced.*

standing on the verge of destruction, are said to have violated some articles of the convention of Saratoga *. But what necessity impelled the British cabinet to hire the peasants of Denmark and Hesse Cassel to butcher the peasants of Brandenburgh and Lusatia? This is, indeed, in the worst sense of the word, A SLAVE TRADE; and in a thousand instances to one, those who *buy*, and those who *sell*, are equally detestable.

In this branch of commerce, the court of Hesse Cassel has long been distinguished by superior infamy. The reader may be surprised by the following anecdotes of Hessian discipline. They were communicated by a gentleman of undoubted veracity, who resided during last war in North America.

"In this service it is a rule, that no soldier can "be put to death by order of a court martial, till "the sentence has been confirmed by the Landgrave. "Hence it happened that a prisoner might have been "confined for eighteen months, before his sentence "could have been ratified, and the confirmation re- "turned. The Hessian officers took a shorter way. "You have heard of a north-west American snow "storm; but unless you had felt it, you cannot pos- "sibly conceive its severity; with every precaution "of clothing its effects on the human body are often

* This is a species of morality that our ingenious correspondent has properly borrowed from the cabinet; *philosophers* may be there found who will vindicate any thing. But the stern *moralist* will admit of no excuse as valid for a breach of contract, but physical *impossibility* alone. Our author, who pleads the cause of *justice* so ably in other cases, ought not to become the apologist for injustice if any kind. *Edit.*

" terrible, and the loss of a nose, an ear, or a chin,
" is but one of its slightest consequences.

" A Hessian soldier had deserted, and his officers
" were determined to dispatch him as soon as pos-
" sible. He was tied up to be flogged in a north-
" west snow storm. Every drop of blood froze on
" the cat's tail. I was within an hundred yards of
" the halberts when he expired.

" One evening, when riding into Halifax, about
" eleven o'clock, I was stopped and insulted by the
" corporal of a Hessian picket guard. I complained
" next morning to his colonel, who, with all the dig-
" nity of a despot, ordered the man to stand with his
" left arm stretched above his head. Two serjeants
" were called, and their orders were to thrash at him
" with their sticks till I should bid them stop. In
" ten minutes I suppose they must have pounded
" him into a mummy. I need hardly tell you that
" I immediately put an end to such a barbarous su-
" perfluity of vengeance.

" Among the Hessians, theft was universal.
" One of them, an old man, stole a great coat of
" mine; it was found, but he had cut off and sold
" the buttons. I interposed with his commander, but
" in vain. He was condemned to run the gauntlet
" twelve times through the regiment, which con-
" sisted of a thousand men. They were drawn up in
" two lines. Every man was supplied with a switch;
" an officer, armed with a cudgel, walked up behind
" each of the ranks, as the prisoner walked, and woe
" be to the man who neglected to give him a severe
" stroke! To make him march deliberate and erect,

" a halbert was held pointed at his breast, and ano-
" ther at his back, so that he could go but at a cer-
" tain pace. In a few minutes his back, his
" breast, and even his face, were in a gore of
" blood. So much for the buttons of a great coat!
" His infernal majesty has not served half his
" apprenticeship, unless he has been a planter in the
" West Indies, the captain of a slave ship, or the colo-
" nel of a Hessian regiment.

" When these troops were first landed from Eu-
" rope, the appearance of many of them announced
" an utmost consummation of wretchedness; the sick
" and the dead were treated with equal indifference;
" the scurvy had made dreadful havock, and I have
" seen them, like as many dogs, buried by cart-
" loads.

" Every circumstance in their behaviour was
" marked with grosness and barbarity. In some
" regiments, the major might at pleasure cudgel his
" captains, the captain his lieutenant, and the latter
" his ensign. Numbers of Americans, whose sensi-
" bility would not have allowed them to fight with
" Englishmen, were forward to exterminate these
" devoted foreigners."———

In the American war, we maintained an army of between twenty-five and thirty thousand German mercenaries, including those in Gibraltar and Minorca. The expence was nominally about seven hundred thousand pounds *per annum*, but amounted in fact to much more; for *the extraordinaries of the army*, as they were called, for 1781 alone, amounted to THREE MILLIONS AND A HALF STERLING. The original object

of the war was to make the people of Boston pay a duty of threepence *per* pound upon tea. The king of Prussia in his letters repeatedly affirms, that, when they began this contest, the parliament of England had certainly *been bitten by a mad dog.*

If idle writers would forbear to pester us with fulsome panegyrics on *our present happy establishment*, I should remain silent; but when a nation, in the administration of whose government such abuses are tolerated, has the stupidity to hold itself up as a model of perfection to the world, it must expect the natural consequences. We look back without satisfaction, and forward without hope.

The American war cost us an hundred and fifty millions sterling; and were not the fact incontestible, it would seem incredible that the most opulent empire in the universe could have supported such a blow. I suppose that of this sum at least fifty millions *were never advanced**; and of the remainder, that another fifty millions were, *happily for mankind*, expended in jobs, and bubbles of all kinds, and in bribes to the peers, the house of commons, and their *constituents*. This was a less execrable way of wasting the public money, than to have hired an additional twenty thousand German ruffians to massacre the farmers of Virginia and Pensylvania.

* It is not wonderful that a paymaster of such unbounded prodigality as North, held out his post for so many years; or that other ministers discover so great a fondness for war, and similar destructive and expensive undertakings; or that those who hope to profit by this extravagance should applaud them for it; but it is truly wonderful that men of sense should have continued so long even to applaud such measures.

All my friend Tumbledown's predictions as to Botany Bay *, are fast approaching to their completion. A boat full of convicts has already escaped, as he foretold, and *has landed at Batavia!* The colony is starving, and the expences exceed even our "heaven-"born minister's" talents for calculation.

I have this moment received the candid and judicious observations of your correspondent Alcibiades. His objections to my letters are few and slight; and, had they been more *specific*, it would not have been difficult to give them a satisfactory answer. He charges me with *indirect innuendoes;* on the contrary, I have crowded together a profusion of facts, which neither Alcibiades, nor any body else can deny; and, instead of *innuendoes*, I have uniformly advanced *accusations* in the plainest stile consistent with decency. If these are ill founded, I shall be happy to learn, and proud to acknowledge my errors. But this point can only be gained by advancing one fact, or one argument, in close and logical opposition to another. He charges me with a design *to depreciate the constitution of this country.* I have censured particular acts of folly and corruption, and the individuals who committed them, but I have not said a single word about *altering the constitution.* In a future letter I may perhaps give a fuller detail of the abuses in parliament, but if Alcibiades imagines that I am a Jacobite, he has not read my letters with attention; or if he supposes that I wish to introduce a mob government, he does me the utmost injustice.

* Vide vol. v. p. 135, &c.

He acknowledges that "the abuses which I point "out deserve the severest reprehension, and ought "to be reprobated by every human being who has "the smallest pretensions to common sense." But if this be true, could it be expected that I was to write in the stile of panegyric? The sentence in his letter which deserves most notice is what follows: "Un- "less the minister has as fully the approbation of the "people at large, as of parliament, he must im- "mediately lose his seat."

This is very strange language. Walpole kept his place for twenty years, though he was universally detested. Lord North led us into the American war in direct contradiction to a majority of the nation. The Russian armament is a solitary instance. This is exactly as if a person who had drawn a prize of ten thousand pounds in the lottery, were to expect the same fortune for ever.

The first duty of a writer is to be *consistent with himself.* On this account, I recommend the two following passages of your correspondent's letter to his serious perusal: "I think that you, Sir, are not quite "free from blame, for permitting them, (the strictures "of Thunderproof) to have access into your Bee." Agreed. But what follows? "Blessed is the state "when the peacemaker can raise his voice without "fear. Long then may such writers as Thunder- "proof be permitted *to exert their talents.* A FOOL- "ISH PROCLAMATION *may be disregarded,* while"—— but my respect for "*legal* establishments" forbids me to quote farther.

DETACHED OBSERVATIONS ON AMBITION.

For the Bee.

AMBITION is a paſsion at once so beneficial and deſtructive to mankind, that I am astoniſhed it has been so much overlooked by a set of men who are not aſhamed to thrust volumes of speculations into the world, upon the *origin* and import of that single word *idea.*

When two of our affections or paſsions conspire in aiming both at the same end; or, when stimulated to a certain degree, are productive of one and the same effect, even, although philosophers have distinguiſhed them (and perhaps wisely) by different names, yet in the human mind they are inseparably linked together, and the idea of the one never fails to produce that of the other; such is the case with *power* and *ambition.* The one is (if I may use the expreſsion) of the same species with the other, or the same paſsion, in different stages or degrees. As a farther proof of this, if we attend carefully to the youthful mind, when it is rising to maturity, we will find the bud of ambition, with the stem of power, bursting forth at the same early period of life. In the throwing of a stone, the school-boy's ambition is roused to out-do his companions; and his power gratified to see an effect produced at a distance from himself. In their small diversions, too, ambition, with its concomitant, power, are easily discerned to be the leading objects. When the ambitious youth, at the head of his little army, wants an enemy to cope with, the lower creation often feels his power; and upon them he exercises even

acts of cruelty to force them to submiſsion. If we look into the records of times that are past, every page presents us with a more fatal effect of ambition than the former, nations groaning under the preſsure of a powerful and a haughty prince, whose insatiable ambition craves daily for the blood of thousands of his innocent subjects; men raising themselves from the most servile ranks in society, wading through whole seas of blood, and that of their dearest relations; nor stopping till they have even stabbed the sacred person of a king, and laid him low, at the foot of that throne from whence he has often distributed justice, with the exactest scrupulosity, among a happy, a numerous, and a wealthy people. The human mind turns with detestation from scenes like these, as below the dignity of our species; and only loves to ruminate on the history of that man, who, in all his actions, sprinkled cool patience. Yet if we take a view of the benefit which society has reaped from ambition, we will perhaps be more anxious to cheriſh it within certain bounds. Of the many discoveries it has occasioned in the sciences; of the many geniuses which have burst forth and overtopped mankind, like the cedar in the forest, which, but for ambition, would have been confined to the humble sphere in which they were born, and their productions, with themselves, been buried in obscurity! Or view it in the field strengthening the nervous arm of war; or thundering from the rostrum, and weilding, at pleasure, a mad and unenlightened populace. But if man would turn his attention inwards, and take a view of the operations of his own mind; there he would find in-

surrections, sufficient for all his power and ambition to over-rule; to *mortify* his *desires*, would be *conquest*; to *subdue* his *affections*, would be *victory*; and to keep *peace* in that little state would be immortal glory, honour, and renown. Yours, *&c.*

Yarrow's braes,
Dec. 5. 1791. } ALEXIS *junior.*

COPY OF SIR WILLIAM BLACKSTONE'S LETTER TO DR GILBERT STUART, THE ORIGINAL IN THE HANDS OF MR MURRAY, BOOKSELLER, LONDON.

SIR,

ON my return from a part of my circuit last week, I found on my table your valuable work, the View of Society in Europe, for which I return you my thanks, and shall take the first opportunity my leisure affords of giving it a careful perusal. I entirely agree with you that law cannot be studied as a science, without calling in the aid of history; and the higher that history ascends into the ruder ages of mankind, the better interpreter it will be of many ancient legal formularies and customs. I perceive by occasionally dipping into your notes, as I opened the leaves of the book, that in some respects you differ from a work of mine, to which you are pleased to pay much greater compliments than it deserves; and your observations, so far as I have seen, appear to me to be just; and I fear that an accurate inquirer may still find in other parts of it, sufficient marks of what was really the case, that the book was not originally

compiled with any view of submitting it to public inspection. I am, Sir, your obliged humble servant.

Lincoln's Inn Fields London, March 16. 1778. (Signed) W. BLACKSTONE.

ON STONE COFFINS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IN your Bee for February 15th is an account of an old stone coffin or *kistbean*, found in the parish of Kirkurd. The flint shaped like a halbert, is that ancient weapon called a stone *celt*; for some account of these weapons, (*vide* Barlase history of Cornwall, the Archilogia, *&c.*) The one of the circular form, and the cylindrical one, were for similar purposes. The neatly carved ring, was a druidical amulet, often purchased at a great price, by warriors from the druids; its virtue was similar, though of less efficacy than the anguinum. Stone celts, anguinum, adder, and coal black amulets, I have often known found in old sepulchral tumuli, and they denoted the person interred to have been a person of rank and estimation.

DETACHED OBSERVATIONS.

GENIUS, though, by its splendid appearance, it generally attracts the admiration of mankind, is seldom beneficial either to its possessor or the world in general. A man of genius rarely passes his time in the

world comfortably, nor are the strong efforts of his mind, in *public* matters, often sufficiently seen by those who have it in their power to render them useful to society, that they are of any avail.

When parents happen to observe great natural parts in their children they ſhould exert themſelves in turning away their eyes from great objects of purſuit, and inſtil in their minds a deſire of becoming eminent in their own particular profeſsion; alſo in taking every opportunity of ſhowing them examples of the great value of integrity; for men of abilities are more frequently *diſhoneſt* than those of moderate talents, and perons who want integrity, ſeldom paſs unpuniſhed even in this world;—well known truths, though too little attended to by those who have occaſion to weigh ſuch things in their thoughts.

There is a pleaſure even in sadneſs, which none but mourners know.

The friendſhip of some men, is like the jealouſy of others, only the paroxyſm of an hour, which rages violently and again subſides, till a new occaſion calls it forth.

Vows and engagements of all kinds are, upon too many occaſions, only conſidered as nugatory forms, which law prescribes, but cuſtom abſolves from performing.

THE NEGRO'S COMPLAINT.

For the Bee.

WIDE over the tremulous sea,
The moon spread her mantle of light,
And the gale, gently dying away,
Breath'd soft on the bosom of night;

On the forecastle Maraton stood,
And pour'd forth his sorrowful tale,
His tears fell unseen on the flood,
His sighs pass'd unheard on the gale.

Ah, wretch! in wild anguish he cried,
From country and liberty torn!
Ah Maraton! would thou hadst died
Ere o'er the salt seas thou wast borne!

Thro' the groves of Angola I stray'd,
Love and hope made my bosom their home,
For I talk'd with my favourite maid,
Nor dreamt of the sorrow to come.

From the thicket the man hunter sprung!
My cries echoed loud thro' the air;
There was fury and wrath in his tongue,
He was deaf to the shrieks of despair!

Accurs'd be the merciless band,
That his love could from Maraton tear!
And blasted this impotent hand,
That was sever'd from all I held dear!

Flow ye tears down my cheeks, ever flow,
Still let sleep from my eyelids depart,
And still may the arrows of woe,
Drink deep of the stream of my heart.

But hark!—In the silence of night,
My Addila's accents I hear,
And mournful, beneath the wan light,
I see her lov'd image appear.

Slow o'er the smooth ocean she glides,
As the mist that hangs light on the wave,
And fondly her lover she chides,
That lingers so long from his grave.

"Ah Maraton! haste thee," she cries,
"Here the reign of oppression is o'er;
"The tyrant is robb'd of his prize!
"And Addila sorrows no more."

Now sinking amid the dim ray,
Her form seems to fade on my view.
"Oh stay thee! my Addila, stay!"
She beckons and I must pursue.

To-morrow the white man, in vain,
Shall proudly account me his slave!
My shackles I plunge in the main,
And rush to the realms of the brave! C.

AN IRREGULAR EPISTLE.

For the Bee.

Now ev'ning, dress'd in sober gray,
Steals silent on the lap of day;
The lofty hills and landscapes gay,
Deceive the sight and melt away;
The hare that o'er the lawns did stray,
The bird that warbled from the spray,
The lamb that round did sportive play,
Do each the call of night obey,
And homeward seek their wonted way.
Then, whilst in repose gentle nature indulges,
Whilst Old Age, by the fire, his long story divulges,
Whilst jovial mortals quaff off their full glasses,
And drown in champaigne all their cares and distresses,
To you, my dear Tom, I'll my bosom disclose,
And freely reveal all my pleasures and woes:
For concealment soon quenches the quick blaze of joy,
Whilst it teaches grief's slow-wasting flame to destroy.

The dreaded sting of bitter woe,
My joyful heart does seldom know,
In sweet content my days I spend,
Blest with a brother and a friend.
Not all the pleasures, all the treasures
Which fill the splendid courts of kings,
Procure a joy without alloy,
Such as from gentle friendship springs.

The man who lives unstain'd by vice,
Virtue, still, who makes his choice,
Tho' distress's loathsome form,
And misfortune's furious storm,

Overpow'r him for a season;
And bedim his clearer reason;
While to heav'n he bows resign'd,
Pleasure and content shall find.
But all the joy the stately palace boasts,
The glare of titles and the pride of posts,
Are but the meteor's sudden short-liv'd ray,
Which mark a while the trav'ller's wilder'd way;
Then leaves his steps in sullen darkness bound,
As if it only shone to shew the gloom around.
Yet tho' friendship's ample shield,
Ward off the arrows of despair,
And tho' virtue's plant doth yield
Balm to cure the wounds of care;
Still is my heart devoid of rest,
Till love shall hold his empire there;
For they alone are truly blest,
Who love's delicious pleasures share.
Sweet is the purple dawn of day,
And sweet the sun's departing ray;
Sweet is the rose that scents the gale,
But far more sweet is love's soft tender tale.

O happy happy they!
Whom love invites to stray
Among the gently waving trees,
Soft murm'ring in th' inconstant breeze!
Depriv'd of this, all other bliss
Is mix'd with pain, and grief, and care;
Should heav'n deny love's blissful tie,
The heart may sink in deep despair.

When mighty Jove's slow-winged wrath,
Doom'd impious man to pain and death;
Jove's mercy, pitying man's distress,
Did thus his low laid race address:
'Still one bright ray divine is left,
'To chear the darksome gloom,
'Mortals! be worthy of the gift,
'Nor idly curse your doom:
'Indulge the feelings of the heart,
'These bliss alone bestow,
'In others' sorrow take a part,
'With others' pleasures glow;
'Then heav'n your labours shall requite
'With peace and joy unknown,
'For love, sweet parent of delight,
'Shall mark you for his own.'
Teach, then, kind heav'n, my languid breast
Thy gentle dictates to pursue,
That yet, with love, I may be blest,
And yet bid vices,—cares,—adieu.

March 4th, 1792. ALPIN.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I OBSERVE in the fourth number of the present volume of the Bee, page 134, a letter from a country schoolmaster, complaining of the smallness of the income of that class of literary labourers in this country, and suggesting the propriety of augmenting their salaries. As I imagine many well disposed persons, who have not reflected maturely on the subject, will be inclined to concur in opinion with that writer, as I myself once did, I use the freedom to transmit to you a printed paper on this subject, that was handed about some years ago, when this question was agitated in parliament, and I trust your impartiality will induce you to publish it, for the information of all concerned. I fancy few of your readers have seen it, and I reckon myself fortunate in being able to furnish you with a copy of it for preservation in your useful miscellany, which I hope will descend to future ages. It contains a full answer to the letter of your correspondent above named; and ought, besides, to serve as a useful caveat, against being hastily misled by false reasoning, to which all mankind are naturally prone, where humanity is interested in the question. A—c—z.

Remarks on the petition to parliament, by the schoolmasters in Scotland, for an augmentation of their salaries anno 1784.

"WITHOUT entering into a discussion of the nature of the arguments adduced in support of this proposal; or an examination of the propriety of the mode of procedure they have adopted; or an inquiry into the effects that would be produced on the different bodies of men from whom the money wanted must be taken, if the prayer of the petition were complied with; or a consideration of

the propriety of the time chosen for making this demand, the present circumstances of the country being attended to; it is only meant, in this eſsay, to inquire whether the general effects upon the community at large would be beneficial, or the reverse, ſhould an augmentation of salary be granted to the Scottiſh ſchoolmasters.

" Before this point can be properly determined, it appears to me that the two following queſtions require to be elucidated.

" *First*, Is it an advantage to a trading and manufacturing country, to render the acquiſition of learning there ſo eaſy, as to put it within the reach of the lowest order of its citizens, or the reverſe?

" *Second*, Will an augmentation of the ſalaries of the ſchoolmaſters in Scotland, tend to promote the cauſe of literature in that country, or the reverſe?"

(The author, by ſome forcible arguments, which, as you might think too long for your miſcellany, I ſhall omit, points out the evil tendency in ſome caſes that reſults from too great an attention to literature among the lower claſſes of the people; and then proceeds as under:)

" Let us, however, ſuppoſe for the preſent, that the general diffuſion of learning, through all ranks of people, were to prove beneficial to a nation:—We are now to conſider, 'Whether an augmentation of the ſalaries of the ſchool-'maſters in Scotland would tend to promote the cauſe of 'literature there, or the reverſe?'—On this head the following obſervations naturally occur:

" It is an undoubted truth, that the induſtry of man is always promoted by his wants; eſpecially when that induſtry, if exerted, has a neceſsary tendency to relieve thoſe wants. In Scotland, the revenue of a ſchoolmaſter ariſes in part from his ſalary, and in part from the fees he draws for teaching. If, in theſe circumſtances, he finds it impoſ-

sible to subsist upon his salary alone, he will naturally be induced to exert himself as much as poſsible, to obtain scholars, that his preſsing wants may thus be supplied. And as there is no compulsory law for causing parents to send their children to school, he finds, that the only way he can take to augment the number of his scholars, and to obtain the good-will of their parents, is to exert himself to the utmost, in the faithful discharge of his duty as a teacher; well knowing, that if he can succeed in eſtabliſhing his reputation in the neighbourhood, he will thus not only become a more respectable member of society, but will also have his wants proportionally relieved.—Put the case, however, that instead of a scanty salary, which absolutely requires the aid of his teaching fees to furniſh a moderate subsistence to his family, that that salary ſhould be so much augmented, as to enable him, in many cases, to live better without teaching at all, than he can now do even with the aſsistance he derives from the fees of his scholars; is it not obvious, that he would not, in this last case, have the same stimulus to exert his industry as in the former?—In this point of view, a moderate salary must neceſsarily excite the industry of schoolmasters, in a much higher degree than a larger one; and, by consequence, an addition to that salary must tend to discourage the cause of literature, instead of promoting it. In those universities where the salaries are high, the profeſsors are universally observed to become indolent. The care of teaching is left to those who choose to undertake it, while the profeſsors content themselves with living in ease upon their affluent salaries;—but where the salaries are moderate, as at Edinburgh, the profeſsors are under the neceſsity of exerting themselves to raise a reputation, and obtain numerous students; because, without the aid of their fees, they could not support themselves with a becoming dignity.

Literature is thus carried to a very high degree of perfection; nor do we hear any complaints of the lowness of the salaries. This example is so applicable to the case in question, as to require no farther comment.

"Let us now consider the effects of the alteration proposed in another light. Would the expence of education, in general, be augmented or diminished thereby? that is, would the teaching fees be more moderate than at present, or the reverse? It cannot be supposed that they would be lower.—To a poor man, a small matter is an object of much greater consequence than to one who is rich. In the first case, a man might value a shilling so highly, as to think it no inadequate recompence for his care in teaching a boy for a quarter of an year; and for fear of losing that small emolument, he would do nothing that might justly forfeit the esteem of his parents. In the last, it would appear such a trifle, as to call forth no exertions on the part of the teacher; so that when such fees were offered, the boys would be neglected, and the parents despised; and the same care that is now bestowed for a shilling, could not then be commanded, perhaps, for a crown.—Instead, therefore, of rendering the acquisition of learning more easy than now, *if the incumbents themselves* were to teach, it would necessarily make it become more expensive; and thus, would frustrate the avowed intention of the petition, that of rendering education in Scotland cheap, and bringing learning within the reach of the poor inhabitants.

"The teaching of youth is in all cases a laborious task, to which none will ever submit, *unless they find their profits to increase with their industry. The profits of teaching*, therefore, must be, to every one who *effectually* engages in this task, an object of great consequence.—To ask whether a small fee will be an object of greater importance to one

who finds it *neceſsary* for his subsistence, or to one who has enough to live on without it, were absurd; as it is obvious, that though it might be highly prized by the first, it would be despised by the last. What follows? One who had such a salary as to bear a great disproportion to his teaching fees, would disdain the drudgery of teaching a few dirty boys for trifling gratuities. His school would thus be so much neglected, as to discourage parents from sending their children to it. In consequence of this, the schools in many country pariſhes would gradually be deserted; and the office of schoolmaster, in most of these pariſhes, would become a mere sinecure, to be given to the dependants of heritors, or parsons, or those who had interest with the kirk seſsion, who would covet the salary, merely to aſsist them in prosecuting some other buſineſs, without once thinking of teaching at all. Where these incumbents were peculiarly favoured by those of high rank in the pariſh, it would not perhaps be thought neceſsary to open a school at all; but even where this could not be dispensed with, unleſs the teaching fees were greatly raised, the office of teaching would be performed by a deputy, who, for an allowance far ſhort of the present salaries, would discharge the functions of the office. This is an evil which is felt even in the present state of things, and is loudly complained of in many country pariſhes*. But if even the small salaries at present be an object of cupidity to those who have not an intention seriously to teach;

* With a view to obviate this inconvenience, we frequently see, in advertisements for teachers to large pariſhes, this clause inserted:—*The place will not be given to any one who does not enter into an engagement, that he is not to prosecute the study of divinity.* Needy students of divinity are almost the only persons who now covet the place of schoolmasters, with a view to teach by proxy, as a small interim support. Were the salaries larger, we ſhould soon find abundance of other competitors for the office.

how much more desirable, in this view, would they become, were the salaries augmented! The evil, which is now only *in part* felt, would be then *universally* experienced. Thus would the industrious part of the community be loaded with a heavy burden, to support a set of lazy drones, who would prey upon the labour of others, without making any kind of useful returns. Idleneſs would thus be encouraged at the expence of industry, and to the prejudice of literature; as it might soon be discovered, that all the learning neceſsary in the performance of this office, would, on many occasions, be an ability to grant a discharge for their salaries.

"Thus, likewise, would the *real* teachers of youth be degraded to a much lower rank in society than they hold at present, and involved in much greater abjectneſs and poverty. Like poor curates in England, who are able to draw but a scanty pittance from the rich incumbents, who live at their ease on their abundant salaries, our poorer deputy teachers would obtain a still more scanty pittance from the nominal schoolmasters; so that in the one case, as well as the other, the important functions belonging to the office of each, would come to be discharged by a set of men, who would be involved in a state of abject poverty, very unbecoming the station they hold in life. And as we know that the circumstance which tends so much to degrade the *officiating* clergy in England, is prevented from being experienced in Scotland, merely because the stipends of our parsons are such as not to admit of their living at a distance from their cures; and, as we observe such a strong tendency already in our schoolmasters to imitate the Engliſh parsons in this respect, have we not the greatest reason to suppose, that, were their salaries augmented, the evil would be proportionally extended, and similar unhappy effects be experienced from it?

"I know it will be alleged, that the smallneſs of the schoolmasters salaries, would, at the best, be such as to be no temptation for any person to look after them with this view; but though they could not be very great, yet it will not be denied, that even a small addition to a man's living, when it brings no trouble along with it, is a very desirable acquisition. And as we know that there are always abundance of persons to be found, who would be glad to perform the office of schoolmaster for much leſs than the salaries at present allowed in Scotland*; it is plain, that if these salaries were augmented, they would become more desirable than they now are, by those who meant only to teach by proxy; and consequently the evil, as has been said, would be augmented in proportion to the rise of the salary.

* Many attempts were made by our forefathers, while the knowledge of political economy was in its infancy, to regulate the price of labour by the power of the civil magistrate. Experience has now taught us, that these attempts have ever proved inefficacious, and are therefore now in general laid aside. I might add, that they have proved the unobserved source of many of those political disorders, that now distreſs the community; and therefore ſhould be guarded against as pernicious. The present application is an attempt of this kind; and, if it ſhould be inadvertently complied with, would, like all others of this sort, prove the source of new disorders in the state. The just price of every kind of labour, as well as of every other commodity, is best ascertained by that which it will bring in a free market. If the wages, in any kind of buſineſs, be higher than that of others, *in the estimation of those who are at perfect liberty to choose for themselves*, many men will be desirous to be employed in it; and therefore a superabundance of hands will ever be found, in case of a vacancy in it; but if the wages are too low, a scarcity of hands will be experienced, and every one will ſhow a backwardneſs to engage in that employment. In this last case, if the buſineſs must be carried on, a rise of wages becomes inevitable; and, in the first case, if the competition for employment be great, it indicates that the wages are too high, and that in sound policy they ought to be diminiſhed. This is the mode that nature points out, for regulating, with the strictest justice, the price of all kinds

" Should it be thought that this evil might be obviated by certain restrictions imposed on incumbents, it would be easy to ſhow from experience, how inefficacious all ſuch reſtraints have ever proved in ſimilar cases; and it could be clearly demonſtrated, that, in the preſent caſe, they would be peculiarly inefficacious, as it might ſo frequently be the intereſt of thoſe perſons to wink at the execution of the law, who would be intruſted with the enforcing of it. Should they, however, diſcharge their duty, with as much zeal as it can be expected men who are not peculiarly intereſted can do, it does not appear that they could do much ſervice. A man may be compelled, indeed, to open a ſchool; but it is a very difficult matter to compel him to cauſe the ſcholars, who are put under his care, to make a proficiency in learning, where he thinks it his intereſt they ſhould not do ſo; and if parents find their children advance ſlowly, they will naturally avoid ſending them to ſchool. I know a particular inſtance, where a well meaning man bequeathed ſeveral

of labour, in a well ordered ſociety, without tyrannical force or conſtraint upon any perſon whatever.

If we were to apply this rule to judge of the propriety of the claim in the preſent caſe, we ſhould be forced to own that it was directly contrary to juſtice and ſound policy; as it is obvious, from the number of competitors on every vacancy, that the preſent ſalaries of office are not judged inadequate to the charge, by thoſe who are to perform the duties of it. So long, then, as this idea prevails among this claſs of men, it is vain to think of raiſing the price of that labour above the rate at which they eſtimate it themſelves; for as thoſe who ſhall obtain by law a title to draw this higher price, will find others ready to diſcharge the duties at the lower rate, which they themſelves deem reaſonable, the firſt will put into their own pocket all the ſuperfluous wages, and the real labourers will reap as little as if no more were paid by the employer for that work, than the exact ſum which they receive. Here we ſee the origin and *rationale* of the order of *curates* in England; and thus we are enabled to predict the ſimilar tendency of the preſent demand of the ſchoolmaſters in Scotland.

annuities of twenty pounds each, to be given as salaries to men, for opening schools in certain parts of the country, for teaching poor children. The salaries have been ever since assigned to those who were judged well qualified for the task. Schools have also been opened by these several teachers, *that no legal objection might lie against their drawing the salaries*; but few, indeed, are the scholars that have been taught at these schools. Similar effects will ever be experienced in similar circumstances.

Thus are we led, from a candid examination of particulars, to conclude, That no beneficial effects whatever could possibly result to the community, if the prayer of the petition should be complied with; but that, on the contrary, many hurtful consequences would result from it. It could not tend to make education cheaper than at present, but the reverse; nor could it make teachers more assiduous and attentive, but rather would make them careless and indolent. It would thus tend very much to discourage the cause of literature, instead of promoting it, in Scotland. It would not even make the teachers themselves more wealthy, or put them upon a more respectable footing, than they now are; but would render them poorer, and more abject in circumstances, than it is possible for us at present to conceive. It would deprive a great body of the people of a considerable part of their property, for the sole purpose of encouraging idleness, without any prospect of benefiting the public in the smallest degree.—From which considerations, and others that might be added, I am led to conclude, that the present demand of the schoolmasters is improper in every sense of the word; that the granting the prayer of their petition, would be highly impolitic, and would tend to introduce a disorder into the community, that would in time be attended with the most pernicious consequences, which could not without great difficul-

ty be removed,—though, like the poor laws established in England by Elisabeth, these distant effects are concealed under a specious appearance of humanity. Let us, however, be taught by the fatal experience which these poor laws afford, carefully to guard against the very *beginning* of this evil, and join with one voice in opposing a measure that is so fraught with the seeds of future mischief. I therefore earnestly beseech my countrymen, now to attend to these consequences with care, while they may be so easily obviated. Even schoolmasters themselves, who could only receive a temporary benefit from it, but who would thus entail perhaps upon their own posterity, a load that would prove highly burdensome, should not in prudence be desirous of obtaining relief by a mode that is so highly exceptionable; and other men, who, from a principle of humanity, feel themselves disposed to befriend this lowest class of literary labourers, ought carefully to advert, that, should their present demand be complied with, it would greatly increase the very evil they intended to remove; and therefore, while, from a principle of humanity, they refuse to yield the smallest aid *in the manner proposed*, they should set themselves to examine, if no other method, that is not liable to similar objections, could be devised for affording that relief which every liberal mind would wish to bestow.

"The writer of the present paper, though he has, from a sense of duty, thought it necessary to expose the evil tendency of the present proposal, is sensible that the revenues of the schoolmasters in Scotland are in general lower than they ought, or he could wish them to be; and would therefore most cheerfully concur in any mode that could be devised for augmenting them, *which should not have a manifest tendency to prove hurtful to the community*: And though it may be difficult to devise a plan for this pur-

pose, that would in all *situations* prove effectual; yet he believes that as few objections can lie against the following, as any other that could be proposed, which induces him to submit it to the public, as a measure that might be beneficially substituted in place of that which has been proposed.

"The fees of teaching in country places of Scotland are in general too low. In some places they are so extremely insignificant, as scarcely to be an object of importance even to those who are in very mean circumstances. This serves at the same time to deaden the efforts of the teacher, by precluding all hope of being able thus to procure, by his greatest exertions, a comfortable subsistence, and is attended with other consequences that are hurtful to the community, as explained in the first part of this essay. To obviate at once, in some measure, both these evils, I would humbly propose, that the schoolmasters should be authorised by law to raise their teaching fees. I will not pretend to say that these fees should be exactly the same in all cases, as that must depend upon local circumstances; but methinks that no inconvenience could in any case arise from fixing the *minimum* of the fee for teaching to read English in country parishes, at one shilling a quarter, and the *maximum* at half a crown; authorising the teacher in each parish to fix on any rate of fees between these two that he should think proper. For all such scholars as were not recommended to him by the *heritors, minister, and kirk session*, to be taught at the lowest rate. For writing, arithmetic, and Latin or Greek, the *minimum* might be five shillings *per* quarter, and the *maximum* seven shillings and sixpence; with the same reservation as above. These fees would not be so high as to prevent any one from acquiring such useful branches of education as were suited to their circumstances and

prospects in life, while it would operate as a reasonable bar to prevent the poor from attaining those unneceſsary acquirements, the frequency of which at present so powerfully tends to derange that due subordination which ought ever to prevail in civil society.

" I might enlarge on the beneficial consequences that would result to all parties, from adopting this mode of augmenting the salaries of the schoolmasters in Scotland. I might ſhow that it would increase their industry, and render them as independent in their circumstances as the nature of their office will permit; that it would confine them to a faithful discharge of their duty; that it would make them become more knowing in their profeſsion, and much more respectable members of society, than at preſent; and that, by consequence, useful literature would be more perfectly taught than it now is. But this paper is already so long, and these consequences are so easily deducible from what has been already said, that I think it unneceſsary here to enter any farther into this discuſsion.

I am,

A FRIEND TO LEARNING, TO INDUSTRY, AND ARTS.

ANECDOTE.

THE late Dr Magrath being called upon to visit a sick man, aſked him, as he entred the room, *how he did?* " O doctor," replied the man, in a plaintive tone, " I am dead." The doctor immediately left the room, and reported in the neighbourhood, that the man was dead. The report was at first believed and circulated; but as soon as the mistake was discovered, the doctor was aſked, ' Why he had propagated a false report?' He replied, that " he did it upon the best authority; for he had it from the man's own mouth."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Editor having been absent for some time past, hopes his correspondents will pardon him for having omitted to acknowledge their favours so duly as usual.

The dialogue in the ſhades by *Cascabel*, does not seem to mark the characters of the speakers with a sufficient degree of force, or precision, without which this kind of composition is seldom acceptable to the public.

Thanks to *G. G.* for the anecdotes. His further correspondence will be acceptable.

The interesting observations on the fiſheries from Greenock are come to hand, and ſhall be attended to, as the ingenious writer desires.

The observations of *Sertorius* are received, and ſhall be inserted with all convenient dispatch.

The reading memorandums, by an old correspondent, are thankfully received. His farther communications, occasionally, will prove highly acceptable. In answer to his private request, the Editor of this miscellany hopes he ſhall always so conduct himself, as to stand in no danger of being affected by any law or regulation respecting the internal government of the nation. The late proclamation can have no more effect upon him than the paſsing wind as it goes; he never will veer even towards the borders of libel, though he will continue to point out useful truths as usual, without regarding what set of persons they may affect.

The very obliging and interesting communication by *Timoleon* is received. The Editor returns his best thanks for this communication; it will be inserted with the very first conveniency; the continuation is requested.

The poems by *Martial junior*, are received, and ſhall be duly attended to. The verses by *R. V.* with the corrections, are also come to hand and ſhall have a place as early as poſsible. The excellent verses *on marriage* are thankfully received, and will appear with the earliest opportunity. The communication by *A. L. L.* by *Antigonus*, by *Alexander Ordo*, *Serapbina*, *Dante*, *Recordator*, *&c.* are received and under consideration.

*** The Editor has been favoured with a drawing of Ankerstroem, by a Swediſh correspondent, taken when that unfortunate being was upon the pillory, which is now in the hands of the engraver, together with an account of his trial, and some anecdotes of his life; an abstract of which will be given as soon as poſsible.

ERRATA.

In the absence of the Editor, the following introduction to the Ruſsian gentleman's account of himself, p. 142, was accidentally omitted:

Send a fool to France, and he will return a greater fool. Proverb.

The following is a natural and well written description of the way in which our men of faſhion, for the most part, spend their time abroad; no other proof need be adduced of the *inestimable* benefit they derive from travelling. Since parents know that such are the advantages to be reaped from that branch of education, can we be surprised that they make such haste to allow them to enjoy it, nor grudge any expence that may be neceſsary for enabling them to reach such high attainments?

Page 96, line 6 note, for *Northumberland and*, read *Northumberland* 11s. 6d. *and*.

THE BEE,

OF

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27. 1792.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HAVE been a subscriber to your work from the beginning, and have remarked, with pleasure, that, in conducting it, you discover a manly independence and firmness of mind, that disdains alike to bend to the influence of power, or to stoop to the meaner compliances that are sometimes required to court popular applause. I have not been able to perceive in your lucubrations the smallest germ of prejudice against, or favour for any party, but, throughout the whole, a generous desire to promote the prosperity of your native country, wherever it seemed to come within the reach of your own power. These considerations have induced me to make choice of your Miscellany as a proper vehicle for communicating to the public a few observations, that appear to me to deserve the very serious attention of the people in the present crisis, which many consider as very alarming, but which I myself cannot yet view in that light. If you approve of the specimen sent, be so kind as publish it without

delay; the remainder, which may perhaps form two or three letters more, shall follow soon *.

HINTS RESPECTING THE CONSTITUTION,

BY ONE OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PEOPLE.

To the people of Great Britain.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS,

THAT there are many things in our constitution of government which require to be amended, no person in his sound senses can deny; it, therefore, follows, that those who oppose every kind of reform, however moderately and cautiously conducted, act an irrational part, and cannot be deemed the true friends of the people.

It is equally true, that, under the specious name of *reform*, innovations may be introduced that may disturb the peace of society, and destroy that security of person and property, which it is the duty of every wise government to preserve. The *real* friends of the people, by cautiously avoiding both these extremes, ought to steer a middle course, so as to pro-

* The Editor is very much obliged to this unknown correspondent for the good opinion he is pleased to entertain of his intentions; he hopes so to conduct himself as to continue to merit it. If the remainder of the lucubrations be written with the same moderation and conciliatory spirit, as the specimen here published, they will be most readily inserted; but should they depart from the principles that the writer has so perspicuously laid down in his letter, and degenerate either into personal abuse, or party invective, he will not be surprised if the Editor, in support of that character which he is emulous of deserving, should decline to insert them. No difference in opinion, from what he himself may privately entertain, shall occasion such exclusion, if the moral or political tendency of the doctrines inculcated do not to him appear pernicious. He begs the ingenious writer of this essay will accept his best thanks for the present very interesting communication.

cure for the community all the benefits of a wise government, without subjecting it to the evils that usually result from precipitate measures in matters of such high concern.

The executive servants of the crown seem, at present, to have taken an alarm at the institution of a society, which, if it acts up to its avowed principles, can only be friendly to the country. This alarm has been industriously propagated through the nation; with what views, I pretend not to say. If the following pages, written by one of "the friends of the people," in his private capacity, can tend to allay these alarms, he will think the pains he has taken in writing them, amply compensated; for no man can be a greater enemy to disorder and contention of every sort than he is.

With a view to effect these purposes, he means to state several propositions that have been brought forward respecting this question; and leave the reader, after a fair discussion, to draw his own conclusions; for it is to the understanding, alone, he wishes to apply for a decision in this case.

That government has been originally instituted for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the people governed, will, he thinks, be admitted by every person, in the present day; so that any attempt to prove this proposition may be omitted as superfluous.

That every form of government, which hath been instituted by man, since the creation of the world to the present day, has given rise to abuses, that have, in certain respects, been productive of evils to the people governed, is another self-evident proposition that stands in need of no proof.

The inference a wise man must draw from this last fact is, that, since absolute perfection is not to be attained in matters of government, the best thing that can be done, is to rest satisfied that it is impoſsible; and, therefore, without running away in search of ideal refinements, to bend our chief efforts to the attainment of such bleſsings, only, as the imperfect state in which we are placed in this world, renders practicable and attainable by us.

In every proposed plan of improvement, therefore, while, on one hand, our imagination puſhes forward into the regions of ideal refinement, let it be ever moderated, on the other hand, by our reason, which, by looking backward to the past, marks what has been done in former times, when similar objects have been in contemplation. We ſhall thus be led, to distinguiſh between the things that are practicable, and those that cannot be executed. To fix nearly the bounds of poſsibility will be a great point gained in this diſcuſsion.

That "all men are born equal;" that is to say, that nature has made no distinction between the talents of men born in different ranks of society, cannot be denied; but that nature hath endowed individuals of the human species with an infinite diverſity of talents and perceptions, can as little admit of dispute.

The natural inference to be drawn from all this is, that it has been the will of providence that men ſhould not continue equal in this world. It has been plainly intended that they ſhould aſsume different degrees of superiority. In consequence of the superior

talents of one man to another, they will assume, of themselves, different degrees of superiority and subordination,—different degrees of wealth and poverty,—different degrees of power and authority, wherever any number of them are placed together.

Since then a diversity, in respect to wealth, authority, and power, is natural, and must necessarily take place in every community, where men, as they came from the hands of the Creator, are left to the freedom of their own wills, without constraint, we must conclude, that any attempt to thwart this immutable decree of heaven will prove abortive; and that of course every such attempt is founded on ignorance, and must be productive of great disorders in society.

Knowledge, said the great lord Bacon, with infinite propriety, is power. *Wealth*, where property is secured by the law, is power.—*Industry* is power. Whoever is possessed of any one of these, in a civilized state of society, must have *power* to a certain extent. He who is possessed of them all, in the highest degree, will ever possess, almost an unlimited power among men.

But *all* of these cannot be long enjoyed by any one race of men. The man of parts, though he may transmit his wealth to his heir, cannot insure to him his talents; and if he leaves to him his wealth, this very wealth naturally abates his industry. It as naturally prevents him from cultivating those energies of mind, with which nature has endowed him. In consequence of these defects, his power is of course abated. Indolence and folly engender dissipation;

so that *industry*, *knowledge*, *wealth*, being all diminished, his *power* sinks below that of another, who has received from *nature* the rudiments of knowledge, who has been instructed by *necessity* to become industrious, and who has obtained wealth by the combined exertions of both.

Such are the inequalities of rank, and the diversities of station, among men, with the revolutions to which they are subjected, that necessarily result from the doctrine, true as applied to the aggregate body, though infinitely false as applied to individuals, "that all mankind are born equal." An attempt to perpetuate power to any family or class of men is therefore unnatural, absurd, impossible. An attempt, however, to preserve a perpetual equality among men, is still more unnatural, more absurd, and infinitely more impracticable. Such a thing never was, nor is, nor ever can be permanently established in this world.

Many awkward attempts have been made in Europe to secure to certain families, or classes of men, a permanency of power, which have been productive of a great diversity of lesser evils, and would have been productive of the most baneful consequences, could they have been carried as far as the favourers of this system vainly imagined. But this, thank heaven, was impossible. The partial evils these have produced, deserve to be adverted to and cautiously removed. But the wild system of equality in rank, though it has been at different times adopted by religious and political fanatics, has been at all times productive of such *immediate* destructive con-

sequences, as never to have for once obtained a nominal permanency in fact, or even in idea, in any country on the globe. Such ideas are too absurd to excite any alarm. If they ſhould ſpring up, they require no other refutation than to leave mankind to the free influence of their own underſtanding. Before this tribunal they muſt quickly ſink and diſappear.

The natural inequality that takes place among mankind from that original diverſity of talents, with which they have been endowed, is ſtill farther augmented by education and the habits man acquires in ſociety, from the circumſtances in which he may be accidentally placed. The influence of theſe *external*, or, as we uſually call them, *moral* cauſes, are ſuch as make a wonderful difference in the natural powers of man. It is to the influence of theſe moral cauſes that we are to attribute that ſpecies of uniformity which we ſo often obſerve among bodies of men; and which conſtitutes what we call *national character*. It is to the influence of the ſame principle that we muſt refer thoſe local perverſions of the human mind, which have at times led whole nations into the moſt extravagant abſurdities of conduct. We now condemn our predeceſſors for the cruſades and perſecutions for conſcience ſake, which devaſtated the world for ſo many centuries: We are aſtoniſhed at the weakneſs of our forefathers for humbling themſelves before the pope of Rome; and ſubmitting to his arbitrary decrees as to the voice of the Deity. We laugh at the weakneſs of whole nations, who at preſent bow with reverential adoration before an infant,

(the grand Lama.) In this respect we do well; but in looking back to the whole series of past ages, can we fix upon a single country, or a particular period of time, when the human mind was not, from education, imitation, or other circumstances, led astray from the truth, and idolatrous of some favourite error? If we must admit that such a period cannot be found, we shall be forced to own that human reason is a weak and fallible guide; and that, while we think we are following its dictates, we may, perhaps, be only adopting a fashionable phrenzy, which has been caught by infection from those around us. Since we see that others have gone into the most extravagant excesses from the influence of such kinds of phrenzy, ought we not to moderate our ideas, when we feel a contagious zeal taking possession of our soul, lest our posterity, in their turn, should find no other mode of palliating our crimes, but that of attributing them to a temporary insanity?

If "all mankind are born equal," a doctrine which in the sense of it above given, I wish to be universally admitted, we must then allow that national characters are merely the productions of chance; that contrary systems of religion, where revelation is out of the question, are to be ascribed to accident; that religious or political zeal, is error; that all mankind are brethren engaged in one common career; that if they were capable of perceiving the truth, there would be an end to animosities and contentions for ever; that therefore war and wrangling, are only the ebulitions of madness and folly; and that beneficence and philanthropy alone are true wisdom.

Since we never can be certain that we ourselves are free from the influence of prejudice, sound sense surely requires that we should treat with tenderness the opinions of those who differ from us, while we also have a just claim to a similar indulgence from them with regard to our own. What circumstance can be adduced as an infallible proof that the reasoning which is in vogue, in our own country, or during the age in which we live, is better than the reasoning adopted by another people, or at a former period? If "all mankind are born equal," have they not an equal right to claim pre-eminence as we have?

Since abstract reasoning, then, is so extremely fallacious, let us be exceedingly cautious how we rely upon it; let us rather be guided by facts in the judgements we are to form of man, and the circumstances that influence his conduct. By adhering to this rule we observe, from invariable experience, that power, with whomsoever it be intrusted, degenerates into insolence and oppression. But as, in matters of government, *power* must be intrusted somewhere, the the great question to be solved is, in whose hands may power be intrusted with the least chance of being abused? or to what modifications must it be subjected, so as to guard against the evils to which these abuses give rise?

In the present age, when the contagious phrenzy runs upon the "natural unalienable rights of men," it is not impossible but some may ask if it be necessary to intrust power in the hands of any of the executive departments of government? Though this question ap-

pears to be too absurd to require a serious answer, yet, when the phrenzy runs high, even absurdities must be treated with respect. Where every person claims a right to decide, in every case, according to his own personal feelings at the time, there can surely be no power authorised to force his opinions *in any case* to bend to those of another person. If he had even given his consent to delegate another in his stead, he still must retain the "*unalienable right*" of annulling that consent, as soon as he shall think he sees reason to believe it was improperly granted. Admitting therefore these claims of "the unalienable rights of man," in their *full* extent, all government must cease, and universal anarchy must ensue.

All government must necessarily be compulsive; and consequently, if it is to operate at all, it must tend to curtail these supposed "unalienable rights of man." If a man is to be punished for theft, or any other crime, this punishment will not, most assuredly, take place with his own good will. He must be compelled to submit. But if the power to compel him cannot, with justice, be lodged any where, such punishment can only be deemed a tyrannical exertion of power, not a strict distribution of justice. Every punishment, every law even prescribing that punishment, must be deemed a tyrannical infraction of the "rights of man." Had the individual even consented to the very law itself, the case would not be altered. He might only have given his consent to it at the time, because he believed it *then* to be just; but *now*, that he sees reason to think otherwise, it can with no consistency of reasoning, be forced upon him,

without depriving him of those "*unalienable* rights," which, from the very terms of the proposition, it is not even in his power to infringe. The doctrine of transubstantiation has had its day. It is now past; and it may be freely ridiculed. Not more absurd it was than that which now claims our animadversion, though it is at present too much in fashion to be turned into ridicule. I am only anxious to free from the imputation of such a doctrine the respectable society of which I have the honour to be a member. That individuals among us may embrace this doctrine, in all its extent, is not at all impossible. With the opinions of individuals I take no concern. I am only interested in freeing the society, *as a body*, from this malevolent imputation, which I think it never, in the slightest degree, did countenance.

Since then power must, in every effective government, be intrusted somewhere, we still recur to the old question, with whom may that power be most safely intrusted? or under what modifications ought it to be put, so as to guard the most effectually against the abuses of it? This will furnish the subject of another letter from

TIMOLEON,

One of the Friends of the People.

London June 3, 1792.

THE highest felicity a man can enjoy, is that of being a *husband* and a *father*, and ending his days in the arms of his children. Sacred ties! "connections of the soul!" a double existence! without which man is desolate.—Alone, in the wide world, as in a desart dragging an useless life, and dying without regret.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCADIA AT ROME, WITH A SKETCH OF THE STATE OF LITERATURE IN ITALY FOR THESE LAST THREE CENTURIES. BY ABBE TOURNER, TEACHER OF LANGUAGES, EDINBURGH, AUTHOR OF THE ANECDOTES OF POPE GANGANELLI, *&c.*

Continued from p. 233.

ON the 5th of October, in the year 1690, in the reign of pope Alexander VIII. when only fourteen of these literary friends had met on a green belonging to the garden of the convent of *San Pietro in Montorio*, on the *Janiculum*, *Crescimbeni* imparted to them what he had been devising with *Leonio*. They were all pleased with the idea, and prompted by joy and emotion, they unanimously broke out with, '*E viva!*' and saluted mutually one another as *Arcadians*. To execute what they thought necessary for laying the foundations of that infant academy, they chose fourteen pastoral names; and having drawn them by chance, each of them assumed the name that fell to his lot. The following are the names of the fourteen founders of *Arcadia*, in the order in which they got their pastoral names: "The cavalier Paolo Coardi from Turin, was called *Elpino*; the abbé Giuseppe Paolucci from Spello, *Alessi*; Vincenzo Leonio, from Spoleti, *Uranio*; Silvio Stampiglia from Civita Lavinia, *Palemone*; Gian Vincenzo Gravina from Cosento, *Opico*; Gian Mario Crescimbeni from Macerata, *Alfesibeo*; the advocate Gian Batista Felice Zappi, *Tirsi*; the abbé Charles Thomas Maillard de Tous-

non from Nice, who was afterwards cardinal, *Idalgo*; the abbé Pompeo Figari from Genoa, *Montano*; Paolo Antonio del Negro from Genoa, *Siringo*; cavalier Melchiorre Maggi from Florence, *Dameta*; Jacopo Vicinelli a Roman, *Mirtillo*; Paolo Antonio Viti from Orvieto, *Carino*; and the abbé Agostino Maria Taja from Siena, *Silvio*."

They afterwards wrote, and signed with their pastoral names, a diploma, by which they chose *Crescimbeni custode*, or guardian, of their assembly, in the following tenor:

"We Arcadian Shepherds, assembled in the Parrhasian grove, which we choose for the immutable residence of our assembly, being willing to preserve peace among ourselves, declare this, our dominion of Arcadia, to be common, although the possessions are to be separately consigned to us; preserving, therefore, to ourselves, the command, for the government and management of the affairs of our pastoral republic, which we cannot always mind, on account of the care of our flocks and cattle, and our other domestic business, we elect, establish, and declare *Alphesibeeus* our fellow shepherd, our *custode* or guardian, and of our Arcadia, both because he has been the first who has set his foot in Arcadia, as well as because we fully confide in his experience, fidelity, and economy, being willing that he should govern and regulate our affairs in that manner, and with those honours and burdens, which will be by us this day prescribed in our regulations."

After they all signed in the order above mentioned, *Crescimbeni* likewise signed his acceptation in these

few words; *I accept the above employment, Alphesiboeus.*

They then proceeded to the division and assignation of the lands; which I shall relate in their own words, as this solemn act was registered at that time. In this deed may be seen not only the prudence and penetration, with which every thing was conducted, but likewise the keeness with which they had entered into the spirit of the pastoral system, which they had conceived; explaining every thing with words and phrases, accommodated to the condition of shepherds, and to those circumstances which were required by assuming the name of Arcadia.

"When the above business was over, we proceeded to the division of the lands of Arcadia, in order that each of the present shepherds, as well as those who are to be received, may be guarded, not only from ambition, but likewise from poverty, both which are equally the destroyers of agreeable studies, and of good morals. The affair was therefore committed to Uranius, to Mirtillus, and to me, Alphesiboeus; and we, observing not only the rights of the assembled shepherds, but likewise the increase of their number, we first collected the names of the countries, mountains, and rivers, and any other considerable right belonging to our dominion; it was then settled that these names, being all put in an urn, which was to be called the Urn of Chance, there should be extracted from it, to each shepherd then present, one of those regions from which he was to take his denomination, and possess fifty jugeras of the adjoining lands, (declaring that the territory, as

rights of each place should be no less;) and if any other lands remained, it should be in the arbitrium of the assembly, for the convenience of which, and of the common of Arcadia, we left all the *Parrhasian* grove and the territory and rights all around it, for the space of half a stadium; and, finally, that the same extraction and possession should be put in practice, in regard to those shepherds, who, from time to time, might happen to come here and be received among the Arcadians. We thus far established, and thus far it was approved by the full assembly; in consequence of which, the above mentioned urn being brought and prepared I Alphesiboeus, to whom, as *custos*, this business appertained, extracted the possessions for each of the assembled shepherds, who were *Elpinus*, *Alexis*, *Uranius*, *Palemon*, *Alphesiboeus*, *Opitus*, *Tirsis*, *Idalgus*, *Montanus*, *Siringus*, *Damatas*, *Mirtillus*, *Corinus*, *Silvius*; and Chance provided for them in the manner that is marked in the catalogue of admissions on the same day. We all entered in an obligation never to make any mortgage on the possessions allotted to us, nor to transmit them as an inheritance to our posterity, which should be obliged to ask them of our community, and obtain from it the investiture of it, exactly in the same manner as those who are to be received for the future; as that land, or right, which fell to our lot, is, at our death, to devolve freely to the community, and to be returned into the Urn of Chance, to the benefit of those who might be received in times to come; who, as it was decreed, are to be likewise subjected to the same obligation."

No sooner was the assignation of the lands performed, when there came some more of those who were used to attend this learned meeting. They were six in number. A full information was given to them of the intended institution of Arcadia; and, according as it had been established, they had again recourse to the Urn of Chance, and the pastoral names and the lands were assigned to them, as it had been performed with the founders, in whose number, however, the latter were never considered.

It may be observed, that every thing, in those first days especially, was directed to an extraordinary simplicity, as the founders of Arcadia wisely judged, that to the end which they had proposed to themselves, of annihilating all notions of emphatic and bombastic phrases, it was necessary to descend to a kind of thinking, of writing, and of speaking, diametrically opposite to that which was then in use. For this same reason, they even chose to retire from the magnificent buildings of Rome, and hold their meetings in the open air, to enjoy the liberty of the country. Thus, happy with their simple and natural government, they limited the legislature and administration of their rising commonwealth, in a few regulations, which are registered in a book, called the *golden book*, where they were signed by the founders, and several other *Arcadians*, who, until the present time, have added their names with their own hands. In my next I will inform you of the political and literary economy of Arcadia, of its laws, its colonies, spread all over Italy, and several other memoirs belonging to it. Mean while let me request of any of your

supercilious and over-serious readers, to contract their long faces, and not to cry out 'what is all this childishness?' whilst they very majestically deign to curve their astonished eyebrows in admiration of the cruel childishness of detestible tyrannical despots, overbearing aristocrates, or raging mad democrates, whose wrong notions of happiness being directed only by their individual self love, disguised under the mask of public welfare, are the destruction of peace, the scourge of the innocent and good, the usher of ignorance and barbarity. I am Sir, your humble servant. FILILLO LIPAREO P. A.

ACCOUNT OF RUSSIAN DYES.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As a subject of curiosity, I send you some account of the primitive modes by which our Russian peasants communicate different colours to the woollen, linen, and sometimes silk stuffs, which constitute their simple garb, all the work of their own hands, and the production of their flocks and fields, even to the colouring materials, the subject of this letter.

It may possibly interest some of your readers, in this age of research and inquiry, to compare the rude state of dying, as obtaining amongst remote self-taught villagers, with the improved state of that art in large cities, where constant practice, emulation, and the thirst of gain, joined to the aid of chemistry, have thrown upon it so much light. But I am afraid that these improved operations, although practised in the neighbourhood of philosophers, are little known to them; such has been the veil of mystery and empiricism thrown over the more lucrative arts, by

their mechanical profeſsors, in former times. It is, therefore, with much expectation and pleasure, that I look forward to the period, when the plan you have so well suggested, ſhall engage the united efforts of men of science in this, and some other of the arts depending on chemistry, as it is only then we can hope for a considerable addition to our very confined knowledge of these subjects. In the mean time, however, the rationale of bleaching has been so luminously treated, and with so much advantage to that valuable branch, that we may hope to see the same public spirit, and the same philosophical research, turned upon dying, which certainly offers a much richer field, and at least equal emolument to the nation at large.

To return to the simpler and humbler art of colouring stuffs in the villages of Ruſsia, I observe, that most of the plants employed in the buſineſs, are equally natives of Scotland, a circumstance that must recommend it, particularly to the Bee, which led me to add their Engliſh names.

Preparation of the yarn for receiving the dye.

They prepare all their yarn or stuffs, by steeping them from four to eight days in *quaſs* (a sour vegetable liquor like that obtained in the making starch) the common drink of the Ruſsians, and one of the three following sorts of moſs, *viz.*

Lycopodium complanatum, which, I believe, you have not.—*Lycopodium selago*, fir club moſs.—*Lycopodium anotinum*, jointed club moſs, both natives of Scotland.

Manner of extracting the dye, and colouring yarn or cloth YELLOW.

For dying common yellow colours, probably only differing in ſhade, they employ one or other of the following plants: *Adonis verna, anthemis tinctoria.*

Genista tinctoria, dyer's weed.—*Serratula tinctoria*, saw wort.—*Carduus benedictus*, soft or gentle thistle.—*Bidens tripartita*, bur marigold; the last four, natives of Scotland.

Dyer's weed.

This plant they reduce to powder, and add to the sour infusion of moſs, above mentioned, where their yarn had previously lain eight days, and let it soak some days more in the new compound, when it is waſhed in clean water and dried, which finiſhes the proceſs. Some, to make the colour more lively, waſh their stuffs once or twice, after the dying buſineſs is finiſhed, in a lixivium of wood aſhes.

Saw wort, and gentle thistle.

To dye with either one or other of these plants, they only make a strong decoction of them in common water and a little allum, and then steep their stuffs or *yarn* (which is more customary) in it, at a boiling heat.

Bur marigold.

To give a golden yellow colour, they treat this plant exactly like the two last, and soak their yarn in the decoction, in the same manner.

It is reckoned, amongst the peasants, a pretty colour for either wool or silk, and the oftener they are dipped the richer it is.

DARK RED.

The principal difference in dying this colour, seems to be substituting the root for the plant itself.

Galium mollugo.

Great bastard madder, native of Scotland. They make a strong decoction of the root with water, in which they soak their *yarn twice*, the first time only warm, the second at a boiling heat.

Galium verum, native of Scotland, and *asperula tinctoria*, which is not I believe a native of Scotland. In this operation there is some little variation from their ordinary mode of simple decoction, as they first make a thick infusion of the pounded root in warm water, which, after standing to draw all night, is diluted and boiled next morning, to make a stronger dye for the worsted.

SCARLET.

Their mode of giving this colour is the most curious and complicated of any of their dyes as it seems to be extracted by fermentation. I ſhould like to hear some of your ingenious correspondents on this, and the first Ruſsian dye, as well as upon the use of acids and allum in preparing cloth to receive and retain colours; although I muſt own I suspect the sour quaſs in the preparation to have no other operation than taking up a colouring matter from the moſs, which, when communicated to the yarn or cloth, facilitates their taking on the dye.

Origanum vulgare.

Wild majoram, native of Scotland. They dry and pound the freſh gathered flowers of this plant, to one part of which they add one of the young leaves of an apple tree, and throw the mixture into an aqueous decoction of one-fourth part of malt, coolled down to the temperature of new milk; then, to induce fermentation, they add a little yeast, and keep it in a moderate heat till quite sour; when that is effected they pour off the watery part, and dry the thick in the course of the night by fire, stirring the compound frequently during the proceſs.

This dried matter when powdered and boiled in water, produces a scarlet dye for woollen and linen, the most beautiful of all their home dyed colours.

GREEN.

This colour they obtain from the tops of the *arundo calamagroſtis*, branched reed-graſs, native of Scotland.

BLUE.

From a species of *isatis*; but our academicians did not obtain the manner of using either one or other of these plants.

If these patriarchal family operations can be of any service to one claſs, or afford amusement to another, of your readers, the purpose will be answered of your most obedient servant.

Imperial cadet corps, in St. Petersburgh Dec. 2. 1792.

ARCTICUS.

Observations on the above.

THE foregoing remarks cannot fail to prove interesting to many of our readers; and were the attention of men of science more frequently turned to an investigation of the native dyes, that men in different parts of the world have discovered, many would be the advantages that would result from it. In the East Indies the natives, by procefses very simple, produce dyes, that European manufacturers have in vain endeavoured to imitate. The paints of China cannot be paralleled in Europe, for the sweetneſs and brilliancy of their colours, all of which there is good reason to believe are extracted from the vegetable kingdom only. The Indians of America, it is also well known, have many beautiful dyes, with which we are unacquainted; and in Africa the negroes, and the natives of the Brasils, have many plants that furniſh inestimable dyes, which are total-

ly unknown to us. Here, then, opens up an immense field for improvement that cannot be exhausted.

The natives in Scotland, and other northern parts of Europe, know how to extract beautiful dyes from many plants of no promising appearances. Among lichens and moſses, in particular, the variety of colours that may be obtained, is almost infinite; some of them inimitably beautiful. The proceſs for dying scarlet, above described, is very curious. The circumstance in particular of employing a fermentative proceſs, is a particular altogether new to me in the art of dying. Whether that fermentation be absolutely neceſsary, or whether the vegetable acid, obtained otherwise, might not answer the same purpose, deserves to be carefully investigated. This is an experimental inquiry, which I would recommend to the attention of such of my chemical readers as have time and opportunity to engage in such discuſsions. It is impoſsible to be more usefully employed than in applying chemistry to the improvement of useful arts; and among these arts none stands in more need of the aſsistance of the chemist, than that of the dyer.

In many parts of the Highlands of Scotland the natives employ the *galium verum*, common yellow ladies bed-straw, in dying woollen stuffs; and from this root they extract a red dye, much more brilliant than that which can be obtained from madder. A still finer dye is extracted from the root of the *galium boreale*, croſs wort. But as this plant is more rare, it is leſs known than the other. As these plants, however, have never been cultivated by art, the roots are so small as to be obtained with difficulty; and as they grow every where on the loose sands, especially where they are of a ſhelly nature, and serve to fix

them, the proprietors of ſuch ſoils are exceedingly averſe to allow them to be dug up, ſo that they can only be obtained for the purpoſe of dying, by ſtealth, and therefore are very ſparingly employed.

Since, however, it has been proved by undeniable experience, that theſe plants afford a dye far ſuperior in luſtre to madder; which might be ſubſtituted for cochineal, in grounding the colour for ſcarlet, is it not aſtoniſhing that no attempts ſhould have been made to cultivate theſe plants by art? We know that the root of madder itſelf, in its native ſtate, is nearly as ſmall and inſignificant as that of the *galium:* It is probable they might be brought by culture nearly to equal thoſe of that plant in ſize; I ſhall, therefore, here throw out a few hints, tending to render the culture of this plant a matter of leſs difficulty than it hitherto has been.

Culture of gallium verum, and boreale.

What has probably prevented men from hitherto attempting to cultivate theſe plants, is the difficulty of gathering the ſeeds, on account of their extreme ſmallneſs, and their inequality in ripening; nor ſhould I have known how to get over that difficulty, but for the hint afforded by the *Tamuls* in India in cultivating the *chè*, a plant of a nature very much reſembling our *galium*, both in its culture and uſes. The ſeeds of the *chè* being ſo ſmall as to elude notice, they are allowed to ſtand on the plant till the ſeed pods open, and the ſeed ſheds on the ground. The earth is then gathered from the ſurface where the plant grew mixed with the ſeeds. These are ſown together on beds properly prepared for receiving them. Let our ſeeds be thus gathered and ſown in the ſame manner.

Having thus obtained the seeds, let some fine sandy soil be prepared during the winter, and manured with the best dung that can be obtained; being perfectly free from root weeds, and thoroughly dug, let it be laid smooth early in the spring; let drills be made in it at a foot distance from each other, into which let the seeds be scattered as equally as poſsible. As we are not certain how long the seeds may be in coming up, drop into these drills a few seeds of radiſhes, merely to mark the place where the rows are, so as to allow the intervals to be hoed without killing the plants. When these appear, the radiſhes may be drawn out, and the plants thinned in the rows, leaving them not nearer than three inches from each other. Keep the ground constantly clear of weeds from this time, by repeatedly hoeing as often as neceſsary, and water the plants when it ſhall appear to be requisite. How long it may be before the roots attain their full size I know not; but experience would soon ascertain it. Thus might be obtained large and fine roots when compared with those in their wild state.

I beg leave to recommend to such of my readers as live among the Western Isles, where these plants abound, and which are there known by the name of *ru*, to have this experiment fairly tried, either in a corner of their own garden; or to send the seeds when collected, to the Editor, which will be deemed a favour.

N. B. The proceſs for dying woollen yarn with these roots, in Scotland, ſhall be given in some future number of this work.

ON MARRIAGE.

For the Bee.

A COURTLY fearful author has declar'd,
That all wise men their kindling hearts will guard;
And tries, as ably as he can, to prove
That 'fierce Repentance' follows youthful love;
That passion robs a man of common sense,
And in no point of view deserves defence;
That 'searchless cunning, cruelty, and death,'*
When beauty smiles, are lurking underneath;
In short he talks in such a surly stile,
As if each sex were infinitely vile;
As if rank falsehood fir'd each am'rous boy,
And each fond girl charm'd only to destroy.
First he forbids all love in 'rosy bow'rs,'
And then proceeds to 'wine and WANTON hours;'
But here the frosted bachelor confounds
Facts more remote than earth's extremest bounds.
No man of sense, when sober, will applaud
The infamous embraces of a bawd;
But let the boldest sophist try to prove
How prostitution is allied to love!
Does the coy country damsel in the shade,
Resemble her whose claret must be paid?
Who by obscenity pretends to please,
Her blushes painted, and her blood disease?
The youth whose bosom artless beauty warms,
May smile at such impertinent alarms.
And then the picture he sublimely draws
Of one run mad when passion was the cause,
Is so absurd, fantastical, and strange,
'Tis but a dreamer gives his fancy range.
Were half the nonsense true he quaintly tells,
Lovers are only fit for handcuffs and the cells,
Whatever crazy pedants choose to say,
No common man behaves in such a way.
The scenery he draws with so much pains,
Is the mere phantom of fermenting brains;
And those whom plain good sense is apt to tire,
Are welcome, if they can, such verses to admire.
It was not thus that Ovid pour'd his soul,
Nor in such muddy foam did Virgil's numbers roll*.

* The writer of the Seasons has many beauties; but he has likewise imperfections. The long passage referred to in the text, will not bear the sober perusal of any reader. The story of Amanda is but a very inferior copy of the admirable book of Ruth. His lofty correspondence between a lady bathing, and her lover peeping from behind the bushes, appears to me much over-strained.

Choose her who, when she knows your credit blown,
Will blush to teaze you for a fiftieth gown;
Whose worthy heart would think it a reproach
To bid you borrow cash to buy a coach;
She'll force you not to quarrel with a friend,
Nor falsifies to serve some petty end;
She cannot say who open'd last night's ball,
Nor sounds the trumpet o'er a sister's fall;
Nor ev'ry tradesman whom your purse employs,
Confounds and tortures with eternal noise;
Nor by some fav'rite chambermaid's advice,
Would wring his bill below an honest price;
No midnight card table annoys your rest,
Nor does her chaplain form her standing jest;
Her pleasure lies in the domestic scene,
Her air is lively, but her soul serene;
She's prouder to assist the toiling poor,
Than see ten chairs come bustling to her door;
Her looks, more piercing far than logic, prove
That all her generous mind is lost in love.
If such a female your embraces meet,
What other human joy is half so sweet?
And though she has not brought a mass of gold,
Though in no titled list her name's enroll'd;
Disdain to sooth a sordid parent's pride,
Nor *the just transports of affection hide.*
And though connected with the rich and great,
Whose sullen silence testifies their hate,
Back on themselves bid their contempt be hurl'd,
Convince her she's preferr'd to all the world.
And if the anguish of a sinking frame,
Incessant efforts of your kindness claim;
When by solicitude oppress'd she seems,
Foretells her tortures and recites her dreams,
Complacent, hear the melancholy tale,
Since ev'n predictions may not always fail.
Room for regret the best of men may find,
When all the past comes rushing on his mind;
And though you did whate'er your part requir'd,
Though ev'ry friend your tenderness admir'd,
When scenes unknown are rising on her view,
And her last look is sent in search of you;
When death invades what nature form'd so well,
And horror interrupts your long farewell;
A thousand doubts may agonize your breast,
And pangs perhaps ill founded stab your rest.
And though she boasted no superior pow'rs,
Nor penn'd a page with elegance like yours;
Though all the actions of her useful life,
Rose not above the duties of a wife;

Though from vain speculation's walk remov'd,
Existing merely for the man she lov'd;
To ill tim'd learning she made no pretence,
Nor soar'd above the range of common sense;
Nor silly praise, from silly scribbling sought,
Nor spoke one word but simply what she ought;
Intent to please in all she had to say,
With spirit gentle, and with wisdom gay;
Blush not, if you enjoy the gift of verse,
Her pure though humble virtues to rehearse;
That wives a wife's true merit may discern,
And future husbands fonder feelings learn;
Then what you lose posterity shall gain,
And the dear victim hath not died in vain.
Of grateful feelings vindicate your part,
Still be her sacred name engrav'd upon your heart;
Since, from the sex, no period can remove
The sweet impression of their earliest love.
Keep her example ever in your eyes,
And prove that you deserv'd so vast a prize;
To those who envy'd all her worth avow,
Survive for her, as she but liv'd for you.

SONNET.

Come listen ye warblers that chant in each grove,
Be silent each throat when I sing of my love;
Let the air be serene, not a zephyr be heard,
Nor the murmuring rill, nor the soft bleating herd:
Be Envy and Malice shut up in their cells,
While I sing of Maria the maid that excells;
Who's the pride of my heart, she's so sweet and so free,
When she's mine, Oh ye Gods! how happy I'll be!

Not kings, nor their courts, with their glitter and show,
Could give me that peace which she can bestow;
Her neck like the lily, her cheeks like the rose,
Envy would fain blight her, so purely she glows;
Her breath like the fragrance of dew on the thorn,
A thousand soft joys her ripe lips do adorn;
Would heaven give the lovely Maria to me,
No mortal can e'er be more blest than I'll be.

The stream that now glides thro' yon sweet verdant vale,
And the echoing rock oft heard my fond tale;
At last I resolv'd my chaste love to disclose,
She thought—then consented—and blush'd like the rose:
To the altar of Hymen I led the fair maid,
And completed the vows I often had paid;
Content, joy, and innocence, now is my lot,
And rural felicity brightens my cot.

M.

SHORT ANECDOTES OF JOHAN JACOB ANKERSTROEM,

THE MURDERER OF THE KING OF SWEDEN.

ANKERSTROEM was of a noble family in Sweden, of an agreeable figure, and genteel address; but under these

favourable exteriors he concealed a heart susceptible of the most malevolent affections, which discovered itself on many occasions in trifling incidents that occurred in the common course of childish amusements, or ordinary business. Among other particulars, equally insignificant of themselves, but which serve to mark the character, the following have been lately published in Sweden:

While young Ankerstroem was attending his studies at the university of Upsal, he took a pleasure in tormenting such unsuspecting peasants as he accidentally met with, in the following manner: He used to collect together the points of broken knives, or other sharp points he could meet with, which he fixed in corks; these he put in his pocket, and when he saw a peasant, whose simplicity of appearance gave him encouragement, he took one of these into the palm of his hand, and coming up to the peasant, with a frank, cordial air, took him by the hand, and squeezing hard, run the points deep into his flesh, and then ran off, laughing at the pain he had given him, and the distortions of countenance it occasioned.

When he grew up, the cruelty of his disposition became still more apparent. He entered into the army, and, when he was ensign in the Royals, he bought a very fine horse, for which he paid above an hundred rix dollars. This animal was high fed, and not having been properly trained, it turned restive with him one day, so that he could neither get it to go one way or other with him. Exasperated at being exposed in this awkward situation, Ankerstroem alighted from the horse, led him up to a neighbouring village, where he borrowed a large knife, and having fastened the horse securely, deliberately fell to cutting and slashing the horse, with his own hands, for upwards of two hours, when the animal expired.

As he advanced farther in life, this cruelty of disposition developed itself in another way. He farmed an estate called *Thorsaker*. In Sweden the peasants belong to the lord of the manor, and are not at liberty to leave the estate without his consent, or that of the person he substitutes in his stead. It chanced that one of the peasants on that estate had incurred, for some unknown cause, the particular displeasure of Ankerstroem. This poor fellow he treated on all occasions with such remarkable severity, that he could no longer bear it. He therefore proposed to find another able man in his stead, requesting that he himself might be permitted to go elsewhere.

To this Ankerstroem objected, and in spite of every effort, the poor fellow was obliged once more to return to the estate. He was now treated with additional severity. His case became so intolerable at last, that he found means to petition the king for relief, who ordered, that if he found another able substitute, he ſhould no longer be obliged to work in person.

Perhaps this slight put upon him by the king, and others of a similar nature, might have operated on his irritable disposition, and pointed him out to other disaffected nobles as a proper tool to perpetrate the aſsaſsination intended. However that might be, he had the fortitude to prove true to his aſsociates; and though upon his trial, his own guilt was undeniably eſtabliſhed, yet he could not be prevailed on to discover his accomplices.

After a fair trial, carried on before the supreme tribunal in Stockholm, he was condemned to be degraded from the rank of a noble and citizen of Sweden,—to stand on the pillory in the market place, for three ſucceſsive days, clothed in a bear-ſkin gown. His hand to be afterwards cut off, and then hanged and his body quartered. All this was executed on the 17th of May last. The regent has

granted, we are told, his estates to his family, who have assumed another name.

The drawing from which the annexed engraving was made, was taken while he stood upon the pillory, and transmitted to the Editor by a correspondent in Sweden. It is said to be a very striking likeness.

N. B. The stake is supposed to be cut off, and represented in front, rising above the picture, to represent the manner in which were displayed the two murderous weapons with which he was armed on that occasion. The inscription above the head means J. J. Ankerstroem king-killer.

ON THE IMPROVEMENTS OF SCOTLAND.

SIR *To the Editor of the Bee.*

A WRITER, describing the inhabitants of the low countries using peats for fuel, and brewing from malt, exclaims,

O miseram gentem, quæ cibum suum bibit, et terram suam urit!

'Oats, in England the food of horses, in Scotland, of men,' is the illiberal definition of an author dishonoured by national prejudice.

Scotland eats the food of horses, burns its soil, and drinks its grain; yet, with pleasure, every lover of his country must observe its rapid improvement in agriculture and manufactures.

To promote this great end, it would be of service to exhibit the errors which custom makes us overlook, and suggest some remedy. My present intention is to represent the bad effects of a practice which has long prevailed in the northern part of the island, and I hope, what I shall say, will be duly considered.

Though agriculture has of late in this country made considerable improvement, yet to enable the husbandman

and proprietor to ſhare the full benefits of the ſoil, there are several obstacles, particularly ſhort leases, a diversity of weights and measures; services, multures, frauds in mixing meal, and the universal practice of grinding meal small in the north of Scotland. I am convinced that what improvements have been lately made, are owing to the granting long leases; but still the practice is far from being general; the slavery of services is daily waxing into desuetude; the high multures paid at the mills would require a particular consideration; the use of different weights and measures creates a confusion in calculation, and occasions a loſs to the ignorant seller. I ſhall briefly hint the frauds in mixture; but my chief intention is to represent the folly practised at the mills in grinding the meal.

The use of oat meal is confined to a very narrow circle. Rye is the common food on the continent, and Scotland is unhappy from its having few markets to dispose of its superfluous grain.

For this reason, I cannot help thinking that Dr Smith was warped by local prejudice when he proposed aboliſhing the bounty on corn, which is only payable when the farmer cannot have a sufficient recompence for his labour at home. It surely is the duty of an enlightened legislature to procure, if poſsible, a certain market, with a reasonable profit, either at home or abroad; nothing else can guard against a famine in one year, and the commodity being too cheap in another.

As the consumption of oat meal is confined to a few places, it ought to be the object of every cultivator to enlarge, as much as poſsible, the confined market; yet by a strange fatality, from exaction of high multures, and the different methods of grinding the grain, this narrow market is rendered still more contracted. Thus, when there is more meal in one place, than is neceſsary for the con-

sumpt, if the superfluity be carried coastwise, it must be shipped to great disadvantage.

In the north of Scotland meal is ground small at the mill, in the south it is grinded round.

The consequences which ensue are,

1st. If the north countries have meal to supply the south, the meal is sold two or three shillings *per* boll cheaper than it would do if round ground.

2d. The meal contracts a more musty smell in the ship, than if ground larger.

3d. The fraud in mixing oat and bear meal is not so easily detected when the meal is ground small, as when round.

This fraud has been always practised; but since the year 1782, when necessity was the excuse, it has made alarming progress, to the great discredit of the farmer and merchant. In Aberdeen the magistrates have of late, very properly checked the fraud, by appointing two markets, one for pure, and the other for mixed meal, and by punishing those who attempt to sell the last for the first. In the district of Buchan, resolutions have been made to check a practice which gives a bad character to the commodity; but I imagine nothing would more effectually detect the imposition, than by grinding the meal round universally. Probably the practice of grinding meal small, was first introduced from its making a detection of mixture more difficult; and it is certainly time to check a custom which hurts the fair dealer, and gives an opportunity for practising a fraud, that is daily increasing; as avarice knows no bounds.

I cannot help thinking, that round ground meal, is better than small meal, in most of the ways in which it is used, and the palate of the commonalty will soon be reconciled to this alteration in their food; for we are not a

nation like the Russians, who raised a rebellion against the great Peter for making them shave their beards, to appear like their neighbours.

If what I have suggested have any weight, I hope it will induce the gentlemen of the northern counties, to take the matter into consideration; and, in that case, it will be a considerable favour done them, if any of your correspondents, versant in the practice of the north and south, would inform them what is the difference of the machinery of the mills in the north and south counties, and how the machinery of the mills in the north could be altered, so as to grind the meal round, as is done in the south of Scotland.

Any hint upon this head, with some plain pratical directions to the millars, to instruct them in the alteration proposed, would be a service to the community at large.

Your constant reader,

Aberdeen. RUSTICUS *.

* Nothing is more easy, and every miller in Aberdeenshire knows, that, by merely setting the stones a little wider than usual, the meal will be grinded rounder. But till the culture of small corn be abandoned, the practice of making round meal cannot become universal; as, from that kind of grain, a small kind of meal only can be obtained. While that kind of meal, called *farm* meal, is payable by their leases, the tenants will never abandon the practice of small grinding. Were nothing but *white* meal payable by the tenants, they would not be under the same temptation as at present.

N. B. The terms *farm* meal, and *white* meal, will not be understood by many of my readers; but they are perfectly familiar in Aberdeenshire. The first is an inferior kind of meal, made from a very *small* kind of oats, with a long beard, that is only known, I think, in the northern parts of Scotland. The last is meal made from the kind of oats common in every part of the country. *Edit.*

GLEANINGS OF LITERATURE.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I RETURN you, with many thanks, the numerous volumes of political economy, from which it appears the excellent Adam Smith drew a great part of the materials for his noble treatise on the causes of the Wealth of Nations.

I have read that book with great attention, and have had recourse, at all the passages you had marked, to the authors from which you justly suppose he drew his first impressions of political conviction, on the subjects of his argument; and entertain no doubt that Dr Smith would have quoted those authors, if he had any where followed them so closely as to render it necessary. But the truth is, as I know from having had the happiness to live long and much with him, that he reasoned, spoke, and wrote from complex results of logical induction, conversation, and reading, that rendered it almost impossible for him to retrace the sources of his knowledge. Perhaps he should have been fuller in a preface to mention the various writers on his subject who had preceded him, in fixing the principles of political economy; but I believe he was induced to forbear attempting this literary gratitude, from his inability to recollect the nature of his obligations.

Every man must be apt to find an apology for the worthy Adam Smith in this particular, when he attempts to recollect the sources of his conviction on moral and political subjects; and to this jury I trust the reputation of my excellent preceptor and amiable friend.

So much for the Wealth of Nations, and its sagacious essayist; but can I pass the consideration and the verdict, without expressing my astonishment and concern that no learned friend of human kind has ever attempted a sub-

ject of infinitely higher importance than an inquiry into the causes of the wealth of nations? which might deserve the title of *An inquiry into the causes of the happineſs of nations!* Such a work, if executed with equal integrity, wisdom, and abilities, would entitle its author to the name of the *Benefactor of the human race.*

It would embrace, in its scope and argument, the health, morals, education, industry, good order, and political sentiments of the people.

It would ſhow that no object of revenue to a state, ſhould induce the legislative power to encourage the use of such food or drink, or such habits and employments, as have a tendency to hurt the bodily organs, or to lower the faculties of the mind, as in the case of tea, tobacco, and ardent spirits; but above all, it would proscribe every branch of buſineſs that had a tendency to pervert the morals, or corrupt the heart of the people. The acquisition of wealth, when contrasted with the loſs of virtue, ſhould, in no case, be put in competition.

That a modification of laws and political institutions, that have a continued tendency to promote venality, intemperance, and perjury, whether in electing the legislative body, or in attempting to evade the payment of taxes, ought to be changed, in such a manner as to remove the temptation or opportunity for such immoralities as have an immediate tendency to corrupt the whole man, and to destroy the moral sense, the force of parole evidence in the detection of crimes, and to produce an aptitude to universal corruption of manners, which goes to the diſsolution of society itself.

That no institutions ought to be favoured by the state that have a tendency to keep youth in ignorance, or to expose it to such occupations or neglect, as must prevent it from being imbued with talents suited to the good of

society; and that rewards should be given to parents for the number, health, morals, education, and industry of their children, or be in a certain degree exempted from taxes on these accounts.

That rewards should be given for a system of education suited to the principles and nature of the government.

That the direction of industry to healthful and uncorrupting branches of manufacture and trade, ought to occupy the attention of the legislative body, and have its due weight in all its deliberations and laws.

That in all schools the radical principles of a free government ought to be taught and digested in the form of a political catechism; and that punishments in schools, as well as rewards, ought to be inflicted or decreed on the same principles, and guided by the same forms, as in the state.

Finally, that no law or institution should take place, contrary, in its principle or consequence, to the maxims and religious philosophy of Him who was the founder of the system of love towards God, and general benevolence towards man.

> O what a multitude of thoughts at once,
> Awaken'd, in me swarm, while I consider
> What from within I feel myself, and hear
> What from without comes often to my ears,
> Ill sorting with our present state compar'd!

I am, dear Sir, with much regard, your faithful humble servant, A. L.

A PERSIAN TALE.

A certain rich man of Arabia was sitting down to his repast, at a plentiful table, when a poor countryman, oppressed with hunger, unexpectedly arrived from the place of

his abode. The rich Arabian instantly inquires, whence came you? Not far, he replies, from the neighbourhood of your family. What news do you bring? Ha! says the other, I can undertake to answer all your questions, be they ever so many. Well, began the rich Arab, did you see a boy of mine, that goes by the name of Khulid? Yes, your son was at school, reading the Koran; Khulid, I can tell you, has a clear pipe of his own. Did you see Khulid's mother? By my troth, a lady of such exquisite beauty, the world holds not her equal. Did you observe my great house? The roof of your house, I remember, touched the skies. Did you see my camel? A fat young beast it is, and eats plenty of grass. And did you see my honest dog? In troth, it is an honest dog, and the creature watches the house with such fidelity! The rich man, having heard the good news of his family, again fell to eating, and cast the bones to a dog that lay under the table; but he requited not the poor Arab with the smallest gratification. The hungry wretch, at this usage, reflected in his own mind: Of all this good news I have been the bearer; yet he has not relieved my hunger with a morsel of bread. Alas! said he, giving a deep sigh, would to God your honest dog were living, who was so much better than this cur! The rich man, who had been wholly engaged in eating, stopt in a instant; what! cried he, my honest dog dead? Why nothing would go down with him, but the camel's carcase. Is the camel dead then? The beast died of pure grief for Khulid's mother. The mother of Khulid! is she dead? Alas! too true. In the distraction of her mind for the loss of Khulid, she dashed her head against the stones, fractured her skull, and perished. What has happened to Khulid? At the time your great house fell, Khulid was present, and now lies buried under its ruins. What mischief befel the great house? Such

a hurricane came on, that your great house ſhook like a reed, was levelled with the ground, and not one stone left upon another. The rich Arab, who, at the recital of these events, had given over eating, now wept and wailed, rent his garments, and beat his breast, and, at last, wound up to madneſs, ruſhed forth in the wildneſs of despair. The hungry Arab, seeing the place clear, seized the golden opportunity, fastened on the viands, and regaled to his heart's content.

OLD GREGORY.

I AM now worth one hundred thousand pounds, said old Gregory, as he ascended a hill, part of an estate he had just purchased.

I am now worth one hundred thousand pounds, and am *but* 65 years of age, hale and robust in my constitution; so I will eat, and I will drink, and live merrily *all* the days of my life.

I am now worth one hundred thousand pounds, said old Gregory, as he attained the summit of a hill, which commanded a full prospect of his estate; and here, said he, I will plant an orchard, and on that spot, I will have a pinery.

Yon farm-houses ſhall come down, said old Gregory; they interrupt my view.

Then, what will become of the farmers? aſked the steward, who attended him.

That's their buſineſs, answered old Gregory.

And that mill must not stand upon the stream, said old Gregory.

Then, how will the villagers grind their corn? aſked the steward.

That is not my buſineſs, answered old Gregory.

So old Gregory returned home,—ate a hearty supper,—drank a bottle of port,—smoked two pipes of tobacco,—and fell unto a profound slumber from which he never more awoke! The farmers reside on their lands,—the mill stands upon the stream,—and the villagers all rejoice in his death.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Misobrontes is respectfully informed, that as the tendency of the essays to which his criticism refers can now be distinctly enough observed, the Editor, agreeable to his former intimation, intends soon to insert his criticism; but he thinks it right to give this intimation that *Misobrontes* may have an opportunity, if he chooses it, to revise it before publication, and to make what corrections or alterations he may see requisite. The performance is at the Bee Office, where it will remain for a fortnight from the day of the publication hereof, at the disposal of the author. After that time, it will be considered as at the Editor's disposal.

The sensible observations of *Infortunitas* are received, and shall be attended to.

The remarks on *hydrophobia*, by *I. T.* shall be submitted to the revisal of some one of the faculty, and shall be inserted if approved of.

The pertinent hints by *Meanwell* deserve to be attended to, and shall have a place as soon as possible.

The favour of *A. T.* is received. If, upon a revisal, the piece he alludes to shall not be judged in all respects proper, it shall be disposed of as he desires, once within a week from the day of the publication of this.

The favour of *Amicus* is thankfully acknowledged, and shall be duly attended to.

The beautiful verses by *Voltaire* are come to hand, as also the sonnet by *Eugene*; verses by *N. N. N. imitation of Shenstone*, and some other poetical pieces.

In the absence of the Editor, the following pieces were accidentally mislaid. He regrets, that in consequence of this, they should have remained so long unacknowledged.

Thanks are due to the very ingenious author of *Cosmogony*, for his modest performance. Modest merit shall never be neglected. The Editor will try to do his piece all manner of justice.

The communication by a *Plebeian* is also recovered;—filial piety deserves to be encouraged. His piece shall appear as soon as can be made convenient.

The verses by *Enon* were also received.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4. 1792.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THOUGH I have not the pleasure of being of your acquaintance, yet I so much liked the plan of your work, that I became an early subscriber to it; and I am convinced, that if you have fortitude of mind enough, and vigour to go on with it, in a spirited manner, without the dread of power, or the virulence of party spirit, you may, in time, become the means of benefiting the country in a high degree. From this hope, I now beg leave to offer a few thoughts on an important subject; which, if you approve of, may, perhaps, be followed by others on similar topics.

Scotland, my good Sir, has not yet acquired that vigour of thought, with respect to personal freedom, that England exercises; so that many kinds of oppression are still tolerated here, which would not be allowed in England. If you are not of a pusillanimous disposition, (which I think you are not,) like most of our countrymen who have the charge of conducting periodical works, you would do well

to hold up to the public eye every thing of that kind, that our countrymen may learn to know them, and to judge of them aright. The evil that I mean to select, as the subject of my present lucubration, is the strange facility that prevails in most of our courts of justice, to grant an *interdict*, on any subject, whenever it is demanded; without hearing parties, or even bestowing the smallest attention to the case, so as to be able to know whether an interdict be really necesary or not.

That a summary interdict may be in some cases necesary, cannot be denied; because in some instances a man may do as much harm, in a few hours, as could not perhaps be ever repaired. Whenever a case of that nature occurs it ought to be granted. But before an interdict be granted, ought not the man who applies for it to be required to declare, upon oath, that the case is such, as that a delay, till parties can be heard, might be productive of irreparable injury; or at least very high damages to himself, without subjecting the party complained of to considerable inconvenience? and if, upon examination, it should appear that the complainer had given a false representation, or had injured his opponent, by interrupting his busines unnecesarily, and without a sufficient cause, that he should be ordained to pay all damages the other had sustained, to the full amount; with a fine of quadruple the sum, for his having wantonly and unnecesarily disturbed the peace of society. If this would not be justice, I beg of those who think otherwise to specify what they think could be so.

Our judges, however, are so far from adhering to this mode of procedure, that, from the highest to the lowest, as far as I have been able to learn, no question is ever asked when a petition is given in, stating, in general terms, that such a person is engaged in any operation, that it is alleged can prove hurtful to the complainer, and craving an interdict, but it is granted of course, without hesitation or farther ceremony; and thus may a manufacturer, who has, perhaps, several hundreds of persons at work, about a business that cannot admit of being stopt for an hour, without the greatest and most lasting detriment to him, be instantly laid idle. Perhaps in a day or two, by a proper representation, he gets permission to go on. But is this enough? A wretch who takes a pique at another, may thus have the malevolent satisfaction, by making his application at a particular time, (against a printer for example, during the throng of session business, or the publisher of a periodical work, at the hour of publication,) to subject him to a very heavy loss, though he knows that the cause which gave rise to the interdict is altogether untenible.

The great difference between Scotland and England, in cases of this sort, is, that in England, the damages in this case would be ascertained by a jury, who fail not, when they see the slightest attempt at oppression, to give exemplary damages; whereas in Scotland the amount of these damages is ascertained by the judge, who scarce ever gives an award that nearly compensates for the injury committed; for men in the sphere of life they have moved in, can seldom enter warmly into the situation of those in other cir-

cumstances. I have just now in my eye a case exactly in point, where a man, who owned an uninhabited house, in the neighbourhood of a considerable manufacturer, obtained an interdict to stop his work; and by that means laid perhaps twenty or thirty people idle, merely because he alleged the noise was disagreeable. Trusting to the well known lenity usually exercised in cases of this sort, he had no scruple to demand this inexcusable exertion of legal power, and obtained it.

I will not take up more of your room at present, but am, Sir, your sincere well-wisher,

SERTORIUS.

ON THE OCCUPATIONS OF A COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

Written some years ago but not published, in answer to a letter in one of our newspapers.

YOUR correspondent of the 27. inst. signing *Amicus*, assigns very good and sufficient reasons for a gentleman avoiding farming. But when he answers his own query, *Is a gentleman then to live idle in the country?* he seems to fall into some degree of contradiction; for he says he ought to farm enough to maintain cows and horses according to his rank, and to improve, (by farming, I suppose he means,) any part of his estate that stands most in need of it, and let it off directly.

That is to say, he should not farm, and should farm; for among all my country neighbours I know none who farm, except for one or other of the two reasons he assigns.

Permit me to offer some reason for a gentleman not farming, that is, ploughing, for the purpose of feeding his horses and cows.

He should have no cows: The farmers in his neighbourhood cannot be better employed than in selling him milk; the price is commonly 1 d. *per* quart. Now, by being rid of the expence of a dairy-maid, and winter feeding cows, it is worth a gentleman's while to buy milk at 2 d. or 3 d. *per* quart; butter he can always command at the market price.

Next, he should not improve his own farms, but let them to tenants on improving leases; and lend the tenants money at a moderate interest, or increase of rent. For if he farms for the purpose of improving the land himself, and he should chance to have many farms, he will be a farmer to all intents and purposes; and exposed to all the impositions so well described by Amicus.

As to horses, he will find himself nearer his purpose to buy what is wanted for their food, than to raise food for them. The tenants or farmers profit, of whom he buys his hay and corn, will be less than what the gentleman would suffer by the infidelity and embezzlement of his servants, besides his having occasion for fewer horses and servants.

We now return to Amicus's query, and shall endeavour to give a better answer to it.

Is a gentleman then to live idle in the country? I answer, No. He may be usefully and agreeably employed in the country, during the course of the longest life; for it is not only a duty we owe to the state, not to waste our time in idleness; but he cannot be

more profitably nor more usefully employed for himself, than in rural occupations. There is nothing Scotland has more occasion for than trees; nor is there a more entertaining part of country business. If the gentleman does not plant, the tenant never will.

No money can procure good mutton; for it is not a farmer's interest to keep sheep till they grow old enough to be fit for presenting at a gentleman's table. A gentleman therefore is bound to inclose a field or sheep park near his house; and to keep a sufficient supply of sheep for his table, not younger, when killed, than five or six years old.

A gentleman may contract for inclosing his farmers fields, and superintend, with much amusement to himself, the execution of the contract.

I have reserved for the last, one of the most constant and most engaging occupations in the world. The flowers and fruits, and other productions of a garden, are seldom to be purchased by a country gentleman. Necessity therefore compels him to raise them for himself. The garden is near the house; every part of its management may be daily under his eye; our gardeners are generally among the trustiest of our servants, of course impositions are more difficult; and it is surely needless to expatiate on the delight which the progress of vegetation, and the renovation of plants, flowers, and fruits, afford the human mind. If mankind have been unequivocally destined for any one occupation, more than another, it is gardening. But I cannot conclude with the sentiment of a lively modern philosopher, *Il faut labourer notre jardin sans*

raisonner. Far, far, be this maxim from my assent. Gardening affords the finest subjects for our enquiries and reasoning; and his mind must be sadly perverted indeed, whose reflexions on a garden, do not ultimately end in admiring the wisdom and goodness of God. To this conclusion the study of astronomy led Sir Isaac Newton; of logic the great Mr Herries; of anatomy Dr Monro; and in general to this every branch of genuine science and learning ultimately tends.

HORTICOLUS.

FARTHER REMARKS ON THUNDERPROOF'S ESSAYS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I THANK you for so readily inserting the few remarks I sent you on Thunderproof's essays; and, by your permission, I add a few observations on the notice he has deigned to take of my essay, see p. 242.

I had said that a minister could not keep his place in Britain without having a majority in his favour of the nation at large, as well as of parliament. To this, he thus laconically answers: "This is very "strange language. Walpole kept his place twenty "years, though he was universally detested. Lord "North led us into the American war in direct con-"tradiction to a majority of the nation." These are, to be sure, direct assertions; but where shall we find data for establishing these facts? I look for them in vain. And were I to give as positive an assertion to the contrary, I think it would be better founded

than his. I am old enough to remember the beginning of the American war perfectly well; and at that time I had occasion to mix very much in society in a great many parts of the nation; and I was perfectly satisfied, from the general voice of the people, as I still am, that a very great majority of the people, had they been called to vote individually, would then have voted in favour of the war. I know well that Mr Fox, and some others, were equally free, in attributing their own opinions to the nation at large, if their own assertion could give it currency, as your correspondent is; but to these assertions, I never gave much credit, I might therefore give an equally laconic denial to these assertions. But if we were to argue thus, there would be no end. I, therefore, shall adopt another mode of reasoning.

As Mr T. does not deny that Mr Pitt came into power "by the favour of the people," in 1784, even in spite of a majority in parliament against him, I must suppose he admits the fact. How was it that the people protected him against the coallition? By returning members to the new parliament, who, they knew, were well affected to him. Does it not follow then, that, if lord North's administration had been so generally disagreeable to the people, as your correspondent thinks, they would, in the same manner, have returned members, whose judgement in that respect coincided with their own? Did not the people of Bristol avowedly do so with regard to Mr Burke? And, had the people in other parts of the nation been equally averse to North, would not they have adopted similar measures?—they did not do it; the majo-

rity in parliament for him immediately after elections, was as great, at least, as before. The *people*, therefore, if they were inimical to him, acted in a manner very different from what they did after he had forfeited their good opinion, by coalescing with Mr Fox. This is somewhat like a proof that they were not inimical to him, as I contend.

Another proof is, that on all occasions where great political questions were agitated, and addresses came into fashion, the number of addresses, from all parts of the country, were then invariably much greater in favour of the minister's plan than against it. These two circumstances, together, are to me very satisfactory proofs that the nation, in general, approved of the American war: Many others might be adduced were it necessary; but these I omit, as you do not like long papers: Though I think it better to make them a little long at a time, than to curtail them by substituting assertions for proofs.

Thunderproof accuses me also of inconsistency. It would seem he reads, as well as writes, with some degree of rapidity. Had he bestowed a little more attention, he would have taken notice that I make a distinction between the *general* tendency of his writings, which I approved, and *particular* parts, which I disapproved of. He would also have perceived, that it was possible a man might not approve of a particular writing on the whole, though he would think it a very great blessing, that no power existed that could prevent the publication of that writing. I ask Mr Thunderproof, if there be not many publications that issue from the press every day, which his friends, if

they thought he either wrote or countenanced them, might say he was to blame in doing so; because it tended to degrade his character, and make him be leſs respectable in the eyes of the public, than they wiſhed him to be? Yet, though they might blame him for taking any concern with such publication, might they not, at the same time, rejoice that they lived in a country where the liberty of the preſs was such as to admit of all publications, without reserve, that were not clearly and indisputably illegal? Such, exactly, is the case with me respecting Thunderproof's eſsays. I see nothing *illegal* in them; and, therefore, I ſhould be very sorry to see that any power, in this country, could be so great as to suppreſs them; though I may not perhaps think them, in all respects, such as to do credit to your miscellany. I own that I can see nothing inconsistent in all this.

Wiſhing succeſs to your miscellany; and thinking that must depend in a great measure upon a proper attention on your part, to refuse admiſsion to articles that your maturer judgement ſhall deem improper, for I am clearly of opinion, that "All things that are lawful, are not expedient,"

ALCIBIADES *.

* Though it is contrary to our plan to engage in controversy, we have indulged this writer by inserting his reply, as it is written with moderation and brevity. This rule we ſhall adhere to in future.

It is requested that correspondents, when they make quotations from the writings of those who may differ in opinion from them, will take care either to transcribe the words exactly, or give a very fair representation of the meaning of the paſsages referred to. This circumstance is here mentioned, because we have frequently observed that disputants act unfairly in this respect. Should the Editor remark this, in any case, he

For the Bee.

ON THE DIFFERENT MANNERS OF MANKIND, AND THEIR CAUSES.

Naturam expellas furca tamen usque recurret. HOR.

I BEGIN with rusticity and politeneſs. These two opposite qualities, though often the result of an improved or defective education, are as often the effect of a particular soil, temper, or race of people; and which no powers of education can subdue or remove.

In spite of the best education, and all the advantages of company and conversation superadded, do we not daily meet with persons, that, when put in comparison with others, of far leſs opportunities of improvement, are mere boors? Did not Cicero's son, Marcus, with the most liberal education, and the utmost pains taken on him by his father, remain a dunce to the last? Did not Chesterfield's son, Philip Stanhope, continue rude and unpoliſhed, in spite of similar endeavours?

A certain ungracious behaviour, an awkward and rough manner, too often degrade those of superior birth, while you will find gentility, and the graces, not seldom tread the lowly plain, or adorn the cottage.

Education improves, but cannot create the principles of politeneſs. These are founded on good taste,

must either suppreſs the communication entirely; or point out the misquotations, in the eſsay itſelf, as he goes along. Unfair quotations, he thinks, if permitted, would reflect disgrace upon his miscellany.

as well as good sense; and humanity has no small ſhare in their formation. Some persons, as well as nations, are naturally humane, lively, and polite; others as naturally phlegmatic, dull, and brutiſh: A disparity of manners is the consequence.

The temper very often is formed by the climate. The ancient Athenians were naturally of the former character; the Thebans of the latter, even to a proverb; a good deal owing to the difference of the Attic and Beotian air. And do not, at this day, the Dutch, who inhabit a similar climate with the latter, rank under a like description?

There is reason to believe that the predominant vivacity of the French, and even of the modern Greeks, depends much on the serenity and moderately warm temperature of the air and climate.

The phlegm of the Germans, and other northern nations, their neighbours, as well as that of the Americans, may proceed from their having lived for ages in the gloomy ſhelter of woods, amidst hardſhips, dangers, penury, and the preſsure of an uncheated atmosphere.

The Engliſh, from the Saxons, inherit a portion of the German phlegm, though joined to brighter and superior parts. Openneſs and honesty are their peculiar characteristics. They are likewise bold and enterprizing; ingenious, persevering, and ſuccesſful in the arts, almost beyond example.

Their perseverance they derive from the Germans; their fire and spirit, from the Normans and Celts: A happy mixture! compared to the French or Spaniards, their natural rivals in arts and arms. They

are superior to the former in fire and spirit, without levity or frivolity; and to the latter in depth and solidity, without sullen and overbearing solemnity; though they certainly are not exempted from a great degree of national pride.

It is, moreover, observable, that the Engliſh poſſeſs a sensibility of nerves that is peculiarly affected by the weather. Hence they are apt to be melancholic and low-spirited. This has been often said; but it seems not peculiar to them. The Scots are frequently affected in much the same manner; and it may be owing, in both nations, partly to the inconstancy of their atmosphere, their insular situation, and particular exposure to the dreary easterly winds; and not a little to their intemperance, and too free indulgence in the luxuries of the bottle and of the table.

The Iriſh are lively, paſſionate, quarrelsome; exceed in talk; and speak by far too much either for deep thought or just reflection. They are, however, alert, strong, and active. The peculiar oddity called Iricisms in conversation, is to be accounted for by the above general character, from which there are many individual exceptions.

Their air, as well as their food, the former foggy from the marſhes, the latter consisting chiefly of potatoes, a heavy nutriment, may both contribute to produce such effects: And many of them die of apoplexies, ('tis probable,) from the same cause.

The luxury and indolence of the southern nations of Asia and Africa, most undoubtedly, are to be ascribed to the luxuriance of the soil, and the diſsipa-

ting and relaxing temperature of the climate. The weakneſs of their mental powers, and violence of their paſsions, as well as the uniform deſpotism or anarchy of their governments, which have always remained the same, must proceed from such natural causes, as no art, no length of time, no revolution for the better, can ever overcome.

The diſsipation produced by the climate, manifests itself not only in the extenſive plains of Aſia, but in the numerous little iſles ſeated in the boſom of the pacific ocean; not only in the haram of the Mahometan, but among the ſimple and rude inhabitants of Otaheite; whoſe amorous queen, Oberea, diſdained not, though otherwiſe of gentle and modeſt manners, to ſolicit with eagerneſs the embraces of our different ſouthern navigators.

Low cunning is another characteriſtic of theſe ſouthern nations; and it proceeds from their weakneſs and puſillanimity. This mean quality prevails almoſt univerſally in the warmer regions; but eſpecially among the Moors of Africa; along the coaſt of China; the peninſula of Malacca; and in many of the Indian iſlands.

Let us now come home to ourſelves; and inquire what is the reaſon, that, even in the different counties of Scotland, a marked diverſity of temper and manners, ſeems in general to prevail.

The inhabitants of the ſouth of Scotland are remarked to be of ſlower ſpeech, as well as action, than thoſe of the north; and this, independent of all education. The Highlanders are certainly more quick, more inquiſitive, more ſocial, and hoſpitable, than

our people in the Lowlands. They are at the same time more proud, paſsionate, and reſentful.

The former being deſcended from the Celts, while the latter owe their origin more to the Saxons and Danes, ſeems to aſsign ſome cauſe for the above diverſity.

Through the counties of Inverneſs, Banff, Aberdeen, and the Mearns, the natives ſpeak generally with a quick accent, and in a ſharp tone, expreſsive of their temper, which is alert and active. As you advance ſouthward, the drawling tone begins at Montroſe and Brechin. At Coupar of Angus it becomes more perceptible; and here the people are in general more ſoft and ſimple in their manners than their northerly brethren. They ſeem in ſome meaſure to partake of that calmneſs and ſerenity of temper, ſo congenial to the ſoil and climate; and which are here fenced from the ſtormy blaſts of the north, by the ſhelter of the Grampian hills, and that enormous maſs of high towering mountains that riſe above one another to the north and north-weſt, and guard the ſouth entry into the Highlands.

In ſome counties, and even in ſome parts of the ſame county, a more rough or ruſtic manner prevails than in others. The natives of Glaſgow and Lanerk ſhires are remarkable for an uncouthneſs of ſpeech, and manners peculiar to themſelves. In Aberdeenſhire, notwithſtanding the general politeneſs about Huntly and the Strath of Bogie, the vulgar manner is peculiarly rough and unpoliſhed; and even the women aſsume a hoydening air, and loud tone of voice, that are often diſgusting to a ſtranger.

In two neighbouring Highland counties, too, there is as great a difference in temper and genius, as is observable between the most distant provinces. The natives of Sutherland are much praised as a sober, peaceable, and well-behaved people; those of Caithneſs, on the contrary, are said to be rough, disobliging and quarrelsome; but this is meant of the lower ranks; for the better sort, and those of higher birth, are observed to be well-bred, hospitable, and soft in their manners.

It is, indeed, impoſsible to describe the numberleſs varieties of human temper and genius; and in smaller groups of mankind, although the differences are generally distinct and well marked, yet they often run into one another with such imperceptible gradations, at other times croſs each other so oddly, that it is much more difficult to aſsign the reason for such diversities, than in large states, kingdoms, or empires.

It is well known that the Georgian and Circaſsian women, have been long famous for their extraordinary beauty. Why ſhould one particular spot produce such crops of handsome women, as yearly store the seraglios and glut the appetite of the Grand Signior?

In like manner in Scotland, the Cathenesian women are blest by nature with distinguiſhed charms, both of person and spirit. Some of them I have seen with the most captivating graces. Though placed at the extremity of our island, in a country barren and marſhy, surrounded with rude mountains and a stormy ocean, yet, in their manners, these nor-

thern ladies are often more soft and pleasing than their southern and polished neighbours. Reasons offered to account for such singularities and exceptions, are often very unsatisfactory and even absurd.

We may guess at the causes of the more obvious appearances, such as those already mentioned, but nature, who has caused infinite varieties in the human race, and for the wisest purposes, often baffles our researches in trying to account for them.

The subject, however, is full of entertainment, and may be of use. I have only sketched a few of its outlines; and propose, in some future number, to offer a few remarks on a similar subject.

Edinburgh, Feb. 1. 1792. PHILO.

ON HIGH HUNG CARRIAGES.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

FASHION, all powerful fashion! has become too predominant. When it serves to promote the conveniences of life, it ought to be applauded and adopted, but when it serves to take from the conveniences of life, it ought to be reprobated and rejected.

One of the most agreeable recreations we enjoy, is the conveyance in coaches and chaises; but here fashion has raised these, to such an elevated situation, as only to be fit for the accommodation of the agile and vigorous, whilst the aged and infirm are precluded from that healthful and agreeable entertainment. It is not without much difficulty, and even danger, that

they can get into, and out of, high hung carriages, particularly descending from them, is very perilous. The assistance from a man's arm is but a precarious prop. It is said that a respectable citizen of Edinburgh, far advanced in life, by a fall he got in descending from a carriage, was so much hurt that he never recovered it.

It is very probable, Mr Editor, that if some of our coach and chaise owners, were to have a few carriages hung so low, that the aged and infirm could easily and safely get into and out of them, they would be employed, whilst the high hung carriages would be allowed to remain on the streets idle.

I know it is said, that high hung carriages are easier for the horses; this may be true, respecting journies *, but can be of little weight respecting airings to the sands, or a few miles from town. Your allowing these strictures a place in the Bee, will much oblige, Sir,

Your constant reader,

MEANWELL.

* The allegation is not true. High hung carriages are demonstrably, in all situations, more difficult to draw than those that are lower hung;—they are infinitely more liable to be overturned;—they cannot be more easy for the persons who sit in them. Considered in point of utility, they are, in every respect, worse than low hung carriages. Never, therefore, did a fashion prevail that was more contrary to reason, than this one is, and those who first break through it, will do a very essential service to the public. *Edit.*

A CHARACTER IN PRIVATE LIFE.

Like leaves on trees the *race* of man is found.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THE remembrance of those who pass through the humble walk of life, and have only the piety, and integrity of their lives, to recommend them to the notice of the world, must, after their death, be very soon forgotten, except by a few of their *immediate* connections. These also, in their turn, will in a short period be consigned over to oblivion; so that the remembrance of father and son, mother and daughter, will be as if no such persons had ever existed. Such being the certain fate of this description of mankind, I beg leave to solicit a place in your Bee, to the following imperfect character of a worthy father, as a small tribute of filial duty, due to his memory by, Your's,

A PLEBEIAN.

BRED to a genteel, though laborious employment*, he enjoyed, from exercise, a state of health seldom possessed by the idle and intemperate. Endowed with great firmness of mind, he never felt himself embarrassed in the presence of any man, of whatever rank in life he was, but always spoke his sentiments with manliness and freedom. Respect of persons, when *worth* was wanting, was what he never could bring himself to pay. He was a person of the strictest honesty and integrity. No consideration could

* A gardener.

make him deviate from truth. To inforce the observance of it to others, he used often to say that the supreme Being was a *God* of *truth*. He had a plain, but determined manner of expressing his sentiments, and, conscious of the uprightness of his own intentions, never used many words to convince: So that, as it is said of Philopæmen, "the most inconsiderable expressions, uttered by him, were listened to with respect, and immediately believed." This rigid adherence, to such plans as he had once adopted, approached sometimes, however, to obstinacy.

He had a steady and unshaken belief in the fundamental doctrines of our holy religion. His piety was warm, fervent, and sincere. He paid the utmost reverence to the holy name of God; and, therefore, could not remain *silent* if he heard any person taking that awful name in vain. He was thus literally "*a terror to evil doers.*" None of the profligate, who knew him, durst appear in his presence, and act as such. His own life, being always a *comment* on his religious sentiments, his admonitions had of consequence a greater effect. He had something of an austere manner; yet, when in company with those he considered as companions, he was facetious and communicative.

His last illness he bore with Christian fortitude and resignation. Conscious of looking back upon a *well spent* life, he looked forward to that futurity, at the thought of which the wicked tremble, with that "pleasing hope" which animates the breast of the DYING CHRISTIAN; and the writer of this, who has feebly attempted to delineate the above traits of his character, heard him say, when sympathising with

him, when oppreſsed by some severe fit of it, "that his *present* diſtreſs, and the then certain consequence of it, were to him only light matters, as he well knew that a ſhort time would put an end to all his afflictions; but that his greatest anxiety and uneaſineſs was only for the fate of his children, whom he was now about to leave to the temptations of a wicked and insnaring world."

After struggling some months with a lingering complaint, he, upon the 13th October 1762, paid the debt of nature. He retained his senses to the last, and was heard, just at the very instant he was expiring, saying "Receive my soul, thou eternal King of glory!"

Peace to his ſhade;—a few revolving years,
And all he *lov'd*, like him, ſhall be no more!

HINTS TO THE LEARNED.

In the whole range of literary history, beginning from the first dawn of science, after the dark ages that succeeded to the subversion of the Roman empire, the æras of Petrarcha, the Medici, of Peiresc, of Newton, and that which is now paſsing before our eyes, may serve for fixed points, around which a learned and enlightened commentator might gather together, and concentrate all the characteristic circumstances that have contributed to the improvement of the republic of learning, embelliſhing his narration with sprightly and interesting anecdotes of the illustrious and learned men who adorned those ages.

Much has been already done for the age of Petrarcha; and in the second period, the interesting notes which accompany the letters of the chancellor de l'Hopital, published in the year 1779, have given a very pleasing and satisfactory view of the state of literature in Europe, during the age of that eminent person.

It remains to do justice to the age of Peiresc; a list of some of whose learned correspondents have been formerly exhibited in this miscellany.

Peiresc contributed, by his correspondence, his memorials, and his purse, to almost all the great publications and discoveries of his time; though he had never leisure to publish any of his own excellent works, except a tract concerning an ancient Tripod, discovered at Frejus.

In the library of cardinal Alexander Albani at Rome, there is a collection of letters from Peiresc to the cavalier Pozzo, which are well worthy of being communicated to the learned world; and would, it is believed, be generously communicated to any respectable and learned person, who would undertake to publish them, as a specimen of the erudition of the noble and excellent author.

This might lead to the publication, in numbers, or volumes, of the great treasure of literature, in the hands of the abbé de St Leger, formerly described in this miscellany; of various other works of Peiresc, which are in the hands of M. de Noyer, his father M. de St Vincent, in the library of Carpentras, founded by Mr Inquimbert, bishop of that diocese, or in the hands of the abbé de St Leger, as prepared.

for the press, with notes by M. Thomasien de Mazauques.

M. Seguier, a learned antiquary of Nismes, who died about seven years ago, procured for M. de St Vincent, the perusal of a volume of letters of Peiresc; and, it is believed, many other precious remains of that great man, may be found in the repositories of the lives of his contemporaries; and, as it is believed that the Bee now travels to France and Germany, the lands of erudition, it is hoped, that these notices may attract attention, and produce consequences favourable to the appearance of a work, so favourable to literature, as that which has been suggested.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

CUSTOM, that whimsical and capricious tyrant of the mind, despises decency, and too often triumphs over prudence and virtue.

There is a common infirmity in human nature that inclines us to be most curious, and conceited, in matters where we have the least concern; and for which we are the least adapted either by study or nature.

With a man of pride or of passion, it is vain to argue. He will despise arguments *a priori* and *a posteriori*. He is bent on an object, in the pursuit of which, self gratification is his chief motive; he can-

not feel the force of words, because he is subdued by the force of paſsion.

I will leave my enemy to be puniſhed by the most painful of all reflections, " the remembrance of a crime perpetated in vain."

The vain man who deſpises, or the proud man who threatens the *world*, is always ridiculous; for the world can easily go on without him, and in a ſhort time will cease to miſs him.

Some men who are good companions abroad, are more serious at home than their families could at all times wiſh; as if they exhausted upon strangers their whole stock of good humour.

Let both sexes consider the uncertainty of happineſs.

To cheriſh the vain hope of uninterrupted felicity, is as absurd as it is to expect unerring perfection from any child of mortality.

Steadily to adhere to the laudable ambition of acquiring happineſs by virtue, is the only *receipe* ever yet discovered, that could reconcile us to our inseparable connection with affliction: The ſharpneſs of whose arrows are easily repelled, when not pointed with guilt.

True is the observation, that however fair the prospect may for a time appear, *affliction*, that certain portion of *man*, will too often intercept our most flattering views.

TO A GENTLEMAN ON HIS BIRTH-DAY.

For the Bee.

APOLLO in a civil way,
This morning whisper'd in my ear,
"Why suffer such a blest birth-day,
"To rise unsung from year to year?

"Tell Probus the whole sacred choir
"Protest it was a cruel wrong,
"In spite of fancy, taste, and fire,
"To quit the pleasing path of song.

"When all Parnassus clubb'd their brains
"To form a bard, we blush'd to see
"The *lawyer*, laughing at our pains,
"Forsake his laurel for a fee.

"Tell him, of three score ten though turn'd,
"Our suit no farther to oppose;
"But if an Otway's fame be spurn'd,
"To pay his long arrears in prose."

BOMBARDINION

ON MOSES.

For the Bee.

THOUGH, with celestial meekness fill'd,
Moses like saw-dust heap'd the waters,
We thank him not for having kill'd,
And spitted two poor fornicators.
Where would the story end should Pitt
Take such a fell reforming fit?

And then for worshipping a calf
To knock so many thousands down!
At this rate one might butcher half
The subjects of the British crown;
Since we must always, which is worse,
Kneel to some patriot hobbyhorse.

The sex when Midian's camp is taken,
Virgins excepted, too he slays.
What princeſs could ensure her bacon,
At such an onset now a days?
Good faith! *Augusta Trinobantum**,
With all his quails wou'd rather want him.

THUNDERPROOF.

VERSES INSCRIBED TO A YOUNG LADY.

[FROM THE LATIN OF BUCHANAN.]

For the Bee.

CAMILLA, dearer to my soul
Than life with all its dearest joys;
Thy beauty bids my numbers roll,
Thy praise ten thousand tongues employs.

Unleſs the muses and the graces
Prefer thy glory to their own,
I swear they ſhall resign their places,
And thou, sweet girl! succeed alone.

Such learning at these tender years,
Till now Minerva ne'r beheld,
And Phœbus with amazement hears
His wit,—his music,—far excell'd.

Each parent's worth in thine we trace,
Their virtues make the wonder plain;
For through thy whole illustrious race,
Parnaſsus glows in every vein.

PHILO BUCHANANUS.

SONNET.

'TWAS in a ſhady grove where ivy twin'd
With creeping tendrils round the knotty trees,
A damsel sat,—her grief and sighs combin'd
In murm'ring whispers with the western breeze.

She mourn'd the fate of virtue and of love,
Which, wrong directed, prove the source of pain;
But when with mutual sympathy they move,
Our paſsing days glide smoothly on again.

So glimm'ring wanders in its heav'nly sphere,
The twinkling star of eve to ev'ry eye,
Till once the orb increasing sparkles fair,
And gains its glorious summit in the sky. M.

* The Roman name of London.

MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST YEARS OF THE LIFE OF THE CELEBRATED MADAME DE MAINTENON.

Of all the instances that occur in the history of Europe of great changes of fortune, no one is more surprising than those that respect madame de Maintenon; who, after a variety of adventures, that would be reckoned extravagantly absurd in a novel, became the wife of the greatest monarch at that time in Europe. What follows is a slight sketch of her parentage and history, during the early period of her life.

'Frances d'Aubigné, grand-daughter to Theodore Agrippa d'Aubigné who distinguished himself in the civil wars, and of mademoiselle de Cardillac, was born on the 27th of November 1635, in the prison of Niort, in which her father was at that time confined, on account of his imprudent conduct, and in which his wife, a prudent and virtuous woman, had shut herself up with him.

'Madame de Villette, sister to the husband, came to visit the lying-in woman, and beheld them in all the horrors of indigence; her brother deprived of reason by despair, and emaciated by hunger; their eldest child wrapped in rags, and already sensible of the miseries of her condition; their second in the cradle, a girl two days old, who, by her cries, seemed to invite death; the mother weeping, and offering her breasts, sometimes to her husband, sometimes to her daughter, but hopeless of saving either the one or the other, as distress and hunger had dried up her milk, and she was unable to pay a nurse.'

'Abstracting from this description, whatever it may be supposed to owe to the imagination of the author, we may still conclude, that, at her birth, Frances d'Aubigné was exposed to extreme misery. Madame de Villette, took her

with her, and put her into the hands of the same nurse to whom she had intrusted mademoiselle de Villette, her daughter.

'In a few years madame d'Aubignè obtained liberty to her husband, and set out with him and all her family for America, where they had considerable claims. In the course of the voyage, Frances fell ill, and was reduced so low, that she ceased to exhibit signs of life. A sailor was going to throw her overboard. The signal gun was ready loaded. Madame d'Aubignè begged leave to press her poor infant once more in her arms;—she put her hand on the heart, and felt it still palpitate, 'She is not dead,' cried she, and her maternal cares restored her fully to life. The vessel in which this unfortunate family were passengers, was attacked by a corsair, but escaped, and arrived safe at Martinico.

'D'Aubignè established himself there in so advantageous a situation, that he was enabled to live in opulence. His wife was obliged to return to Europe to settle some affairs. In her absence, d'Aubignè spent his whole fortune at play, and she found him, on her return, ruined and dying. The widow returned to France to obtain assistance, leaving her daughter, who was now seven years of age, as security to her creditors, who sent the child about from one to another. The judge of the place, taking pity on her, received her into his house, but becoming soon weary of her as the others, sent her after her mother. She fell first into the hands of madame de Montalambert, her kinswoman, who refused to entertain her. She was then received by madame de Villette her aunt, who brought her up in the Calvinist religion.

'Her mother, a good catholic, wished, notwithstanding her distress, to take her daughter into her own hands.

'This madame de Villette refused, alleging that madame d'Aubignè could not posibly support her. But to obviate the objection, madame de Nuillant, another relation, in easy circumstances, obtained an order to have her delivered to her, wishing to bring her back to the catholic religion; she attempted that at first by gentle and fair means, but when these did not succeed, had recourse to severity. Frances was confounded with the servants, and degraded to the meanest tasks about the family, the kitchen and the court yard. She went every morning with a mask on her face, to preserve her fine complexion, a straw hat on her head, a basket under her arm, and a switch in her hand, to watch the turkies; with orders not to touch her breakfast, which she carried in the basket under her arm, till she had first got by memory five stanzas of sacred poetry. Ill treatment had no effect to make her gratify the wishes of madame de Nuillant, she therefore placed her among the Ursuline nuns of Niort, where madame de Villette agreed to pay her board; but after her conversion, that lady withdrew her kindness, and the young catholic then returned to madame de Nuillant.

'This lady went occasionally to Paris in a sedan chair, carried by two mules, on one of which mademoiselle d'Aubignè used to ride. She introduced her to the company with which she herself used commonly to associate, boasted in public of her growing charms, and in private exercised over her all the tyranny which dependants are liable to suffer from their benefactors. The young lady was already charming, and promised to become completely beautiful; her figure and her understanding were both above her years. She was about thirteen when madame de Nuillant took her to communicate for the first time with the Ursuline nuns in St James's street. Frances continued with them, except when she went to see her mother, who

supported herself by her labour, and madame de Nuillant, who continued to shew her in the world.'

It was in the family of madame de Nuillant that Scarron, the facetious French poet, became acquainted with madame d'Aubignè. Her marriage with Scarron, when he was in a state of decrepitude; her exemplary conduct as his nurse, rather than his wife; her marriage, while in her state of widowhood, with Louis XIV. and her subsequent history, under the name of madame deMaintenon, are so well known, as not to require to be here developed. She was the most amiable woman that ever figured at that court; and her history makes a beautiful exception to the general train of base anecdote that so deeply degrades mankind in the eyes of the philosophical reader of the private history of that period.

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Hot house plants reared by the aid of steam, a new discovery.

A GENTLEMAN, who is eminently distinguished for his mechanical talents, and his improvements in several branches of rural economics, ha lately contrived to rear pine apples, melons, and other hot house plants, without the use of tan, or other fermentative mixtures, the necessary heat being communicated by means of steam; and after having practised it for at least two years, he can now, with some degree of confidence, pronounce, that it has even exceeded his highest expectations; and is, in several respects, preferable to any mode hitherto practised for any hot house plants, particularly in respect to insects; for he does not find that any one class of insects, have ever once attacked any of the plants that have been reared after his new method.

The circumstance that led him to the discovery, was the difficulty of finding *tan*, in his particular situation. Chagrined at this, he began to reflect if it might not be posſible to do without it. It readily occurred to him, that heat and moisture are the two great agents in promoting vegetation, and he thought, that if these two could be conjoined together, it could not fail to prove salutary; steam properly managed seemed to promise to do this. He then contrived an apparatus by which water can be kept properly heated to transmit steam; and this steam, so managed, as to be capable of acting either by its heat only, or by its heat and moisture united, as circumstances ſhould indicate to be proper; by means of flues, either horizontally disposed under a bed of earth, or in a perpendicular wall, both the soil, in which the plants grow, or the wall, to which they are nailed, can be heated to any degree wanted; and by admitting the steam itself at pleasure, either into the body of the mould, or into the hot house, the plants may be subjected to a heated bath, if you please so to call it, which appears, by the experience he has had of it, to be wonderfully kindly to vegetation. The whole plant comes to be moistened with a warm vapour, which slowly condenses into a dew, which seems to penetrate every part of the leaf, and confers an envigorating freſhneſs to the whole plant, that nothing else could have effected. It is impoſsible to conceive any thing more beautiful, luxuriant, and fruitful, than the vines I saw that had been reared by this mode of management.

The world is indebted for this discovery to Mr Wakefield of Liverpool, a gentleman, who, to indefatigable activity and industry, conjoins a spirit of research, and a talent for mechanical invention, that gives room to hope for many additional discoveries from that quarter; among others, he has already made a machine for cutting chaff,

that, for its simplicity of construction, facility in working, and perfection in performing its business, deserves to be more generally known. Mr Wakefield has communicated to Mr Moreland of Manchester all the drawings of his apparatus for managing steam in the rearing of plants, with the full instructions for conducting the whole operations, and the latter gentleman is just now preparing the materials for publication; so that the public will soon have an opportunity of being fully informed as to all these.

Mr Wakefield's attention is but incidentally directed towards his garden. He is active in the prosecution of agricultural improvements on a larger scale; his dairy, consisting of about 100 cows, cannot perhaps be paralleled by any other in the island;—his calves he usually sells at ten guineas, new dropt;—his bull is a fine animal, whose portrait ought to be preserved;—he intends to have it drawn by Stubs.—These cattle are chiefly fed in winter by the grains he gets from the large brewery of Liverpool, a monopoly of which article he has obtained for a good many years; this enables him to keep a very large stock of cattle in proportion to the size of his farm, which affords so much dung, as must enable him, if he shall live a very few years, to make it one of the richest fields in England. When wealth, and industry, and good sense, are united, great is their power.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE favour of *Theologus* is received. His requisitions shall be complied with. The critique on a passage in Shakespeare by *W. G.* is come to hand; we will try to give it a corner. *Misobrontes* will see by the notes to correspondents in our last, that his suspicions were ill grounded. *Hints to the learned*, from a respectable correspondent, are received, and will appear the first convenient opportunity. *Amicus* on leases is also received. The observations of this correspondent are sensible and pertinent, and shall be duly attended to.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

May 23. 1792.

FOREIGN.

France.

Paris, April 23. About 1000 livres were presented to the national assembly, towards defraying the expence of the war by different members, requested by their acquaintances to be the medium of their patriotism. The members of the national assembly come to the resolution of giving up one-third of their salary, during the months of May, June, and July, the whole will amount to 406,000 livres, (from hence we learn that the pay of the members of the national assembly amounts to 4,872,000 livres, or about L. 221,500 *per annum.*)

The next day, however, this decree was revoked.

The assembly have decreed not to grant letters of marque, as there is not a war against individuals.

M. la Fayette disapproves of the war thus hastily entered into; as no man knows better the real strength of the French army, many are deeply affected by his conduct, and apprehend the worst consequences.

The Swiss have annulled their treaty with France, and have ordered all their regiments in the French service to be recalled.

The following are the stations of the French general officers:

Army of Rochambeau, comprising the first and sixth divisions—mareschal Rochambeau at Valenciennes; lieutenant generals, —d'Aumont at Lisle, d'Elbeck at Dunkirk, Crillon, *senior*, at Valenciennes, Caulaincourt at Arras, d'Harville at Cambray; nine camp mareschals in the before mentioned places.

Army of la Fayette, containing the 2d, 3d, and 4th divisions,—M. de la Fayette at Metz, lieutenant generals Wittgenstein and de Bellemont at Metz, Crillon, *junior*, at Nancy, Paiquet at Thionville, Defranc at Luneville; fourteen camp mareschals in the before mentioned places.

Army of Luckner, compre-

hending the 5th and 7th divisions,—M. Luckner at Strasbourg; lieutenant generals—de Gell at Strasbourg, la Moliere at Besançon, de Costine, Helterman at Landau; eleven camp mareschals at the above named places.

Defeat of the French forces.

The 28th ult. in the morning, M. de Biron, at the head of 10,000 men, marched from near Valenciennes, and proceeded towards Mons. He dislodged the Austrian parties which he found in his passage. The 29th he appeared before Mons, near which he saw the enemy most advantageously posted on rising grounds, and much more numerous than he had reason to expect. M. de Biron immediately sent off a courier to the commander in chief, to acquaint him with his position, and passed the night under arms. While he was waiting for orders, he was informed that the queen's regiment had deserted, and, as they fled, had given out that the general was gone over to the enemy. He followed, and forced the deserters back. The Austrians, perceiving the confusion amongst the French troops, attacked them, and obliged them to retreat. Whole regiments ran away,—only one corps behaved with intrepidity, it was the second battalion of Parisian volunteers. The Austrians pursued the French above four leagues, took most of their baggage, and many of their cannon. General Biron had his horse shot under him on the onset; the colonel of Esterhasy's regiment was taken prisoner with his thigh shot off.

The same day, at seven in the evening, a detachment from the garrison of Lisle sallied out under the command of major general Theobald Dillon. His orders were to march against Tournay, and make a feint on that place, to cause a diversion of the enemy's forces, while Biron's army was employed in reducing Mons. In the morning, as the detachment halted, they descried a formidable body of Austrians close by. The enemy's artillery immediately began to play upon them with great havoc. General Dillon ordered a retreat to be sounded, and there too only one corps (the chasseurs) kept their ranks, and answered the enemy's fire, all the others fled to Lisle in the utmost confusion. Being within a small distance of the town, the coward soldiers cut general Dillon in pieces. They dragged his limbs to Lisle, and threw them into a fire kindled on purpose in the market place. They hung M. Berthois, an engineer officer, M. Chaumount, the general's aide de camp, and a priest, for no ostensible reason; and then they hung up all the Austrian

prisoners which the general, by a good manœuvre, had taken.

Mareschal Rochambeau has resigned. He complained that the war minister only communicated with M. de Biron, and M. d'Aumont, officers under his command.

The minister at war has resigned.

Poland.

It is said that Ruſsia and Pruſsia intend to attack Poland and destroy its new constitution. I ſhall insert the following paper, which ſhews the unanimity of the diet, and the confidence they have in the king.

On the 16th of April, the diet paſsed a preparative of public defence. The preamble states, 'That taking God and all the people of the earth to witneſs, that we do not mean to declare war against any power; that we hold in the greatest regard the friendſhip and good understanding that has subsisted between us and our neighbours; and that we are occupied only in maintaining our liberty and independence — and considering that the negociations between foreign courts require from us, for the guarantee of the territories of the republic, of the nation, and of our happy constitution, that we ſhould prepare for our defence, we decree.

'1 That the king ſhall exert the power invested in him by the laws, with the greatest activity and efficacy, in providing for the defence of the nation.

'2. We authorise the king to engage two or three foreign generals, and to place them at the head of the army, with the rank of commandants in chief, as well as experienced officers of artillery and engineering.

'3. We charge the treasury to negociate a loan, at home or abroad, for thirty millions, on a mortgage of the produce of the sale of ſtarosties.

'4. We authorise the king to dispose of all the money arising from this loan, as well as what may be in the treasury, if war ſhould take place, which God forbid, in the neceſsary defence of the republic, under the responsibility of the minister.

'5. In two months from this date, the minister ſhall give an account of the iſsues of money.'

They afterwards voted their thanks to the prince Czartoryſki on his miſsion to Dresden.

Miscellaneous.

Count d'Aranda has withdrawn the royal edict of the 20th of July, requiring an oath from strangers. This edict contained very great inconveniences, and served as a pretext for vexations of every kind, and greatly checked the freedom of trade in Spain.

The Dutch settlements in

the eastern world, are in a deplorable situation. At the Cape of Good Hope a revolt is hourly looked for—at Batavia, where the same spirit of disaffection prevailed, a pestilential fever had swept off 1600 of their troops; and a whole Chinese colony, consisting of more than 2000 persons, had likewise been destroyed by it.

The states of Brabant assembled on the 17th April, when they agreed to grant the subsidies with-held from the two late emperors, and made solemn professions of attachment and submission to their new sovereign. The only boon they asked in return, was the restoration of the five former counsellors of the council of Brabant, which is to be granted.

The Russian forces employed against the Turks, are now on their return.

Ismael was evacuated and restored to the Turks on the 25th of last February.

The council of two hundred of Bern, have condemned Mr Rosset to 25 years imprisonment on the following charges: 1st. That being the assessor of Lausanne, he did not denounce the crime of a banquet, on the 14th of July last, in honour of the French revolution. 2d. That he suffered buttons and ribbons to be worn, and songs to be sung at the said banquet, relative to the French revolution. 3d. That he did not tell all he knew upon his examination. 4th. That he was member of a club connected with foreign clubs.

The following sentence is passed on Ankerstroem; 'that he is adjudged to be infamous and unworthy of any of the rights of a citizen. That he shall be put into the pillory for two hours in the forenoon for three successive days, and whipt with six pair of rods. That his head shall be severed from his body, his right hand cut off, and his body, thus mutilated, shall be impaled. An inscription to be placed on the pillory as follows: 'Johan Jacob Ankerstroem, assassin of the king.' He was pillored and flogged on the 12th ult. for the first time.

The duke regent has given his property to his children (who are to change their names) though it was forfeited to the state by the laws.

The king of Hungary and Bohemia has issued an edict enjoining all the French, who are not emigrants, to quit the city of Brussels in forty-eight hours; and those who may be in the other cities, and places of the low countries, are to quit his dominions within eight days after the publication of the edict.

The council of finances at Brussels have published an or-

finance prohibiting the vending to, or furnishing the French with provisions, ammunition, *&c.*

One hundred thousand men, under the command of the prince of Hohenloe, are on their march to the low countries, where they will be joined with 60,000 Prussians under the command of the duke of Brunswick.

The latest answer obtained by the French minister at Madrid, respecting the intentions of that monarch, were highly descriptive of the national character. The king of Spain briefly represents himself as *master of his own affairs, and not accountable to any other power for his actions, much less for his thoughts or intentions.* Notwithstanding this, it does not appear, from any steps yet taken, that any assistance will be afforded to the ex-princes from that quarter.

A sample of a new sort of gun-powder has been presented to the national assembly of France, the force of which has been proved to be to that of common powder as 130 to 107.

Leyden, April 27. It is the custom for the ministers to pray for the Stadtholder and family. The inhabitants of Heusden, as often as the minister began this prayer, shewed their dissatisfaction by coughing, spitting, blowing the nose, and scraping with their feet, so that a word of the prayer could not be heard in the church, however it might ascend to heaven. The regency published an edict, forbidding all coughing, spitting, blowing of noses, during divine service. The citizens were peaceable, but from that day the churches have been deserted.

Lord Cornwallis, in a letter to Sir George Oakley, bart. *&c. &c.* dated Camp, ten miles from Bangalore, Oct. 24. 1791. gives an account of the capture of Nundy Durgum.

The following are a few particulars of the assault:

'The firing of three guns was the signal of the storm, whilst the band, with infinite effect, played "Britons strike home." Climbing from rock to rock, and passing the deep ravines of the mountain, the party reached the summit; the enemy fled with terror and surprize at the gallant efforts they saw, after firing a few muskets, and throwing a small quantity of rockets, which did no execution. Captain Monson carried the works to the right with much gallantry. He was sent merely to scour the wall and the works, and prevent an ensilading fire, but seeing the confusion of the enemy, he closely pursued them, entering five different gates immediately on their heels; a stand was made at the last, where a kil-

ledar and 200 or 300 of the enemy were killed.'

Domestic.

Extract of a letter from Deal, May 7. 'Yesterday some boats came in from Dunkirk. They bring the melancholy intelligence, that on Thursday night the town was thrown into the greatest consternation by the drums beating to arms, owing to a violent disagreement between a king's regiment and a regiment of the national troops, which arose to such a height, that the two parties fired on each other, and the people who brought the intelligence, fearing the consequences, fled to their boats and sailed immediately; but that the firing continued without intermission for a considerable time.'

An attempt was made on Wednesday, May 9. to fire the House of Commons, which was happily rendered abortive by the diligence of the watchman of the house.

The publisher of Mr Paine's work, on the rights of man, has received a notice of prosecution by the attorney general!

The exhibition for this year at Somerset Place, is augmented by two additional rooms, and upwards of 200 more pictures than last year have been admitted. The additional rooms are the plaister gallery, and the library.

The duke of York is appointed commander in chief of the third regiment of guards.

A court martial assembled on board his majesty's ship Brunswick in Portsmouth harbour, on the 27th of April, proceeded to inquire into the cause and circumstance of the loss of his majesty ship Sirius, and to try captain Hunter, her commander, her officers, and company, for their conduct on that occasion; and having heard the evidence, and completed the inquiry, the court is of opinion that the loss of the Sirius was not in any respect owing to mismanagement, or a want of proper attention to her safety; but that captain Hunter, her officers, and company, did every thing that was possible to be done for the preservation of his majesty's said ship Sirius, and for the good of his majesty's service; and the said captain Hunter the other officers, and company of the said ship, are therefore honourably acquitted.

An acre of ground on the banks of the Clyde, a little below the new bridge Glasgow, which has been rented for these sixteen years past at L. 5 a year, was lately sold by public auction, for L. 350 sterling. A striking instance of the increasing value of landed property in that part of the country.

A letter was received May 2.

in town from Sierra Leone, giving an account of the safe arrival there of the company's ship Harpy, and other veſsels which sailed from England about the beginning of the year, as well as of the fleet from Nova Scotia, with upwards of 1100 free blacks, all in good health and spirits.

A warrant has lately received the royal signature, for iſsuing from the treasury L. 1674 10 s. and 3 d. to Evan Nepean esq. for presents to the Indians.

A number of the freemen of Carlisle, after timely notice given, accompanied by Mr Lowthian their attorney, proceeded on the 4th of May to Kingsmuir, near that city, and took poſseſsion of an estate there, by breaking open a gate and digging a turf. This, it seems, is done in order that the poſseſsor may join iſsue, and try the rights of property therein. The question also respects several other estates in that place.

We learn from Dumbarton, that, on the 30th of last month, a liberal subscription was entered into to support the freeholders of Kirkcudbright in the appeal, relative to the eldest sons of peers being entitled to vote in the election of commoners, or to be chosen as representatives of the commons in Scotland. At the same meeting, the following gentlemen are appointed delegates from the county of Dumbarton, to meet the delegates from the other counties in Scotland, in Edinburgh, on the 2d of July next, to take into consideration the present state of the election laws of the country, *viz.* lord president, lord Stonefield, Mr Graham of Gartmore, Mr Campbell younger of Clawthick, and Mr Buchanan of Ardock.

On the 15th inst. a daring and most ingeniously conducted forgery, was imposed upon the public, as news from the East Indies. It so far answered the purpose of those concerned in the plot, as to raise India stock *five*, and consols *two per cent.*

We never remember any story (the spurious gazette excepted) to have been practised upon the public with greater succeſs. Letters were received by the court of directors, and by the secretary of state, dated from Bristol, and with the Bristol post mark, informing them that a veſsel had spoken off Scilly with the Vestal frigate, which had been dispatched by Earl Cornwallis, with the important intelligence of his proceedings: That lieutenant Abercrombie was charged with dispatches to government; that the Vestal had been beating up for several days against a hard gale of wind from the N. E. and, be-

ing disabled, lieutenant Abercrombie, fearing that he ſhould not ſoon get into port, had reſolved to write out a ſhort abſtract of his important news, to ſend home by the firſt veſſel he ſhould meet with.

The accounts given in theſe letters were the moſt favourable that could have happened, that Tippoo Saib had been entirely defeated, and Seringapatam taken.

So ready are we to give credit to joyful tidings, that no doubt was entertained of the truth. The court of directors, aſſembled for the ballot, announced it with three cheers. Mr Dundas was equally elevated. He ordered a letter to be ſent to Lloyd's from the India Houſe, and he himſelf ſet out poſt to Kew, to announce the triumphs to his majeſty. Nay, ſo determined were men to believe the fact, that a rumour gained credit of the actual arrival of the veſſel in Plymouth ſound, and a notice to this effect got upon Lloyd's books. Towards the evening, people began to doubt the truth of the intelligence, for a circumſtance, which, in the firſt moment of general joy had been entirely overlooked, now preſented itſelf with great force. No veſſel had been entered upon Lloyd's books, as arrived at Briſtol for two days preceding, in conſequence, the entry of the veſſel was at night erazed.

May 17. The General Aſſembly of the church of Scotland met.—The right hon. the earl of Leven, his majeſty's commiſſioner, attended by a number of noblemen and gentlemen, walked from his lodging to the High Church (the 53d regiment and the city guard lining the ſtreets), where he was received by the magiſtrates in their robes. The rev. Dr Robert Small, one of the miniſters of Dundee, the late moderator, preached before the commiſſioner, from Hebrews xiii. 1. "And let brotherly love continue."

After ſermon his grace went to the aſſembly-room, and the members proceeded to choose a moderator for the enſuing year, when Dr Andrew Hunter, profeſſor of divinity in the univerſity and one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, was unanimouſly choſen. His Grace's commiſſion was then read, and alſo his majeſty's letter, and warrant for L. 1000 for propagating religion in the Highlands and iſlands of Scotland, which were ordered to be engroſſed in the books of the Aſſembly.

May 18. The foundation ſtone of the Glaſgow infirmary was laid by the lord provoſt, attended by the magiſtrates council &c. of that place.

The whole company were dreſſed in black, and made a very fine appearance.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

June 13. 1792.

FOREIGN.

France.

M. BARTHELEMY has received positive aſsurances from the council of 200 at Berne, that the most exact neutrality will be observed by the troops of the republic, and that they hope a similar conduct from the French.

Mareschal Rochambeau persists in demanding his dismiſsal. It has been accepted.

M. de Crillon, the elder, who served in Rochambeau's army as a general officer, and M. de Beauharnois, who distinguiſhed himself so much in the expedition against Mons, who were both members of the constituent aſsembly, constantly attached to the popular party, and both of distinguiſhed military abilities, have also given in their demiſsion; and we are aſsured, that a great number of officers of the northern army will follow their example.

On the 16th the Austrians marched to Bavai, an inconsiderable place, between Valenciennes and Maubeuge; it was guarded by 100 of the regulars—at an early hour in the morning, the French detached scouts from their little body; but these returned without having discovered the enemy, —2500 Austrians, however, soon appeared and surrounded the town. The besieged fired some musquet shots, but the Germans showed their cannon. —The French surrendered, and were made prisoners of war; the inhabitants were disarmed. The Austrians took five wagon-loads of ammunition with them, and marched with their prisoners to Mons—some of the soldiers began to pillage, but they were immediately taken before the French magistrates, and received in their presence fifty strokes of a stick each. A party of dragoons rode into Valenciennes, and gave information of what had taken place; the French generals aſsembled, and it was resolved that marshal Luckner, with 3000 men, ſhould march to Bavai, while general Rochambeau put himself at the head

of the grand body. Marshal Luckner marched into the place, without experiencing any resistance, the Austrians having evacuated it two hours before.

The French officers are daily quitting the army;—you have here the list of those who arrived at Treves, from the 4th to the 11th instant—On the 4th of May arrived forty-two of the Poitou's regiment, and several soldiers of different corps. On the 5th, twenty-eight officers of artillery from Metz, with some privates,—the 6th, thirteen officers of artillery, from the same garrison, with fifteen citizens, well armed, well mounted, and having their pockets well lined; the latter went immediately to the prince of Condé's quarters; the same day, a spot was chosen on the frontiers of German Lorraine, for a camp of 14,000 emigrants,—on the 7th arrived ten officers of different regiments,—on the 8th twelve officers of the regiment of Alsace, and almost the whole regiment of Berchiny,—the 9th twelve officers of Lorraine,—the 10th intelligence was given that the *Royal Allemand* horse, were within two leagues of Treves, and solicited permission to march in,—the men had not eaten for fourteen hours; all the emigrants, above 4000 in number, ran out to meet the regiment, having previously purchased provisions of every kind for the troopers. The first expressions of joy were *vive le roi!*—On the 11th a courier announced that Saxe's regiment had joined the princes.

The body guard of the king is disbanded, and the commander Brisac accused.

Germany.

Vienna, March 16. Her imperial majesty has followed her consort to the grave. She died on the 15th, highly regretted by her family, and indeed by all the inhabitants of this capital, on account of her many illustrious virtues. Her money, jewels, &c. are left in equal proportions among her other children.

Lieutenant general count de Clairfait, who lately set off from this residence for the low countries, has been instructed to tell the French generals, that in case any more murders be committed upon their prisoners, the Austrians will take the most ample vengeance on such of the enemy as may fall into their hands in the course of the war.

Coblentz, May 17. On the 11th the archives and treasure of the chapter of Treves, were brought in a number of chests, and placed in our fortress for security, for fear of an attack upon the frontiers of Treves.

The Austrian troops have received orders to hasten their

arrival at Landau as much as poſsible by forced marches.

The arrival of emigrants and French deserters is so great, that in the course of a few days their number amounts to near 500.

The elector Palatine is greatly alarmed for the safety of his territories on the Rhine. The French have demanded of him leave to march 6000 men thro' his bailiewick of Gemerſheim, which he thought proper not to refuse. Of this circumstance his minister has informed the court of Vienna.

The property left by the late emperor is stated to amount to 15,000,000 of florins.

Brandenburgh May 19. The troops destined to act against the national aſsembly of France, as it is expreſsed in the orders iſsued on that subject, have been on a war footing since the 15th of this month. They will not, however, march before June; and the affairs of France are not the sole motive for putting the king's troops in motion. The regiments stationed in Pomerania, have received orders to hold themselves in readineſs to march to the frontiers of Poland. Twenty-five thousand men will be ready to aſsemble there by the 8th of June. The regiments of Braun and Lignowſki, at Berlin, are also to prepare to march to Silesia. We only wait for the final determination of Ruſsia, with regard to Poland.

Poland.

Warsaw, May 14. Meſsengers are continually going between this place and Petersburgh, and we hope the Ruſsians will be kept from committing hostilities. They are still on the frontiers of Lithuania. We expect that by the 27th inst. it will be determined what will be done on their part. In the mean time all the officers are ordered to join their regiments, and we are putting the kingdom in the best state of defence poſsible.

Two corps of Tartars, of 500 men each, are raising, besides two regiments of coſsacks of 1000 men each, and four battalions of light infantry.

Warsaw, May 20. The grand blow, which we have so long expected, is struck. Ruſsia, seeing war declared between Austria and France, and finding herself likely to be called upon to fulfil her engagements with the former of those two powers, has now avowed her intentions, which are to overturn the present constitution of Poland, and give to it a form of government, which may best suit herself. An official declaration has been delivered to our government on this subject, dated the 18th of this month, and filling twelve pages, in three languages, Poliſh, French, and Ruſsian. It

announces therein the entrance of the Ruſsian troops on the territory of Poland, and the formation of a new confederation. War is therefore declared.—The republic, aſsured that all Europe is fully convinced, that it neither merited nor provoked such a step, has taken such measures as may supply the deficiency in point of forces; and amongst other resolutions adopted by the diet, a decree was iſsued the 11th of this month, entitled, 'A measure for a just concurrence of citizens for the general defence of the country;' the substance of which is, that whoever, in the present war, suffers by the inroads of the enemy, ſhall be indemnified by a fraternal contribution of the whole nation, agreeably to the report of an extraordinary commiſsion, which ſhall be appointed to examine their claims; but those Poles who prove rebels, and traitors to their country, ſhall forfeit their fortunes, and suffer the death they deserve.

Liſbon, April 10.

The queen is much better, and her health returns daily; but it will ſtill require a long space of time to effect a perfect cure. The prince of Brasil is very well satisfied with Dr Wilis, and protects him against his numerous competitors who are jealous of his ſucceſs.

Bruſsels. May 25.

This government has received an account that general Sztaray, who had been quartered at Charleroy, to watch the movements of M. la Fayette's army, having understood that a large detachment was posted at a place called Florenne, at no great distance from Philipville, he resolved to attack it, though his force was much inferior; M. de Gouvion's numbers being estimated at 7000, and those of general Sztaray at but three. The French, after an obstinate resistance, in the end gave way, leaving 150 dead, several wounded, three pieces of cannon, and all their baggage and ammunition; the loſs of the Austrians was four killed and twenty-two wounded.

Miscellaneous.

Nine thousand Italian troops under the command of general de Strasaldo, are to unite with those of the king of Sardinia; so that an army of 30,000 men will oppose the French on the side of Savoy.

The Pruſsian troops are in motion, and part of them will paſs through Bohemia, by way of ſhortening their journey.

The court of Bruſsels has ordered all the French who are not provided with certificates, given by the agent of the French princes at Bruſsels, to leave the low countries in two days; after which, if apprehended, they will be regarded as prisoners of war.

M. de Calonne's manifesto, intended to be read at the head of the emigrant army, as soon as it obtains a footing in France, contains the ground work for the new constitution which is to govern that country. Its leading features are the same as our own; it proposes to have two chambers of parliament, of course the nobility will be restored.

The American funds have fluctuated in a very uncommon degree, within the last six months. Those who speculated in them in the first instance made immense sums. And so high was the public opinion in their favour, that the six *per cents* were run up to L. 150. But this fictitious value did not last long; and the fall has produced several considerable failures at New York. They are now down to 120, producing an interest of five *per cent.*

The pope has had another apoplectic attack, in a journey to the Pontine marshes. On the 10th he was somewhat recovered, and expected at Rome.

At Stockholm every thing is in the utmost tranquillity. The government notes are rising every day. The subscription of one-fifth in billets d'etat to the bank of discount, was filled in half an hour.

The criminals, against whom the fiscal has drawn his conclusions, sent their defence yesterday; but count Horn is exceedingly ill. Besides the conclusions of the fiscal already known, the royal secretary, John d'Engelstrom, brother of the chancery counsellor, and Nordel, the territorial judge, are condemned to live on bread and water four days, to lose their places, and the first is also to be degraded from the rank of nobility. Secretary Haldin will be set at liberty.

DOMESTIC.

Jan. 19. 1792.

Extract of a letter to the Editor from Fort St. George, by the Phœnix.

'I wrote you to day a few lines with the Madras couriers, directed to the care of Mr ——— and did not intend to write farther at present; but the importance of the news just received, which must have a great influence in terminating the war speedily, has made me appropriate the few moments before the closing of the packet for that purpose.

'Our arms have been successful beyond every expectation, since I last wrote you in September; and the panic with Tippoo's best troops, is now so great, that they desert their strongest holds on the sight of a white face, as you will see by the accounts in the couriers, of the hill forts, or droogs that have been taken, which are so strong, by nature and art, as to be almost impregnable with a good garrison. About seven

months ago Purseram Bhow, second in command of the Mahratta army, a brave and active officer, separated from Hurry Punt the Mahratta general, and took with him a great force, 30,000 fighting horsemen; for there are a number attendants also mounted to each trooper; a small body of Mahratta infantry and our two Bombay battalions. He has been ever since hanging about the confines of the Bidanore country, from which Tippoo could only expect any supply of provisions, and which induced Tippoo to detach one of his most experienced generals with eight guns and a large and select body; they came so unexpectedly on the Bhow, that the advanced guard, sent to reconnoitre, were cut to pieces. The Bhow and his people had just time to mount when the action commenced, which is said to have lasted from morning to night, for the particulars are not yet publicly known; and that Tippoo's army was totally destroyed, their guns, *&c.* and their general taken; the Bombay battalions had the greatest share in the attack, but the numbers of Mahratta cavalry no doubt completed the defeat. The Mahrattas are supposed to have suffered severely; we have only lost one officer, and a few seapoys. Tippoo had no doubt great expectations of success, and it would have inspired courage into his people if he had succeeded. His success against the Nizams troops at Gurrumcundah, who were surprised and cut to pieces, must have added to his hopes.

'This body must have been the flower of his army; and as he has now lost all his hill-forts, before thought impregnable, it is not imagined that his people will defend Seringapatnam. Lord Cornwallis is within forty miles of his capital, completely equipped with a battering train and every military store; and is by this time on the move. I think it very probable before the end of this month that all will be finished, as far as the taking of the capital, and annihilating Tippoo as a sovereign to be dreaded; he may get into the Bidanore country, and support himself in a small way for some time.'

Advices have been received from Ireland, stating that an association of the Roman Catholics had been formed, to which Napper Tandy (although a protestant dissenter) is secretary, and of which every description of people, within this kingdom, unrepresented in parliament, are invited to become members. The object held out is a parliamentary reform, on the great basis of admitting the Roman catholic, and other dissenters, to the right of voting.

for and sitting as representatives.

And in order to accompliſh this, a long and solemn oath is to be taken, that each person who becomes a member, will, at the hazard of his life and property, and by every means in his power, endeavour to accompliſh this great purpose.

On the arrival of captain Edwards of the Pandora, at Copang, the capital of the Dutch settlements at Timor, in the schooner, after the loſs of the ſhip, they were treated with the greatest humanity and attention by governor Wanjon and the other gentlemen of the place. There they found eight men, a woman, and two children, who had made their escape from Botany Bay, in an open six-oared cutter.

Orders have been iſsued from the admiralty for the ſhips of war which are to compose the squadrons on foreign stations, to be ready for sailing on the ſhortest notice.

The store-ſhips and transports for carrying the convicts of both sexes to Botany-Bay, are to go out under convoy of the Lyon man of war of sixty-four guns going on the Asiatic station.

There were some disturbances at Birmingham on the 22d of last month, occasioned by the death of a soldier, in consequence of wounds he had received in a house of bad fame; but they were very soon quieted, but not till after they had destroyed all the disorderly houses of the place.

On the 4th of last month, a subscription was opened at Armagh in order to make a donation to the National Aſsembly of France, to enable it to carry on the war against the king of Hungary. The Belfast second society of united Iriſhmen, at a meeting lately, also unanimously resolved on contributing their ſhare of money to aſsist the people of France in the present war.

On the 23d of May, died, in the 74th year of his age, the right honourable George Bridges Rodney, lord Rodney, baron Rodney of Rodney Stoke, Somersetſhire, baronet and K. B. an admiral of the white, and vice admiral of England. His lordſhip is succeeded in his estate by his eldest son the honourable George Rodney.

There lately arrived in Glasgow, from the island of Bara, twenty-four families, consisting of 131 men, women, and children, all of whom the aſsociation for preventing emigration has taken charge of, and procured employment for them, in and about Glasgow. Twenty families more are soon expected from the island of Mull.

The king has lately signed a proclamation for preventing the officers, privates, or any other individual under the Britiſh

crown, from entering into the service of either the French or the Hungarians.

The marquis of Abercorn is to succeed the earl of Westmoreland, as lord lieutenant of Ireland.

Alexander Abercrombie esq. is appointed to be one of the senators of the college of justice, in the room of the late lord Rockvile.

The musical festival, in honour of Handel, and for the establishment of a musical fund was celebrated this year at St Margaret's, instead of Westminster abbey.

On the 23d of May a riot happened in the town of Derby, in which several gentlemen had their windows broken; but by the timely interference of the magistrates, further mischief was prevented.

Canterbury, June 1. In consequence of an information, two officers from the custom-house at Dover yesterday followed a gentleman to Canterbury, who had arrived from France in the packet; the information stated him to have in his possession seditious and treasonable writings. On searching his trunk, only one packet was found (except some family papers), which was addressed to the president of the constitutional Whig Club in London. It contained some professions of friendship from the Jacobin Club of Thoulouse, which was taken by the officers, according to their directions. We understand strict orders are issued to his majesty's officers to search all suspected persons; and writings of a seditious tendency found in their possession, are immediately to be forwarded to the council-board.

On Saturday a greater number of members of both houses of parliament attended at St James's to present the address respecting the late proclamation, than was ever witnessed on any former occasion, even on the memorable event of the American war. The chancellor had fifty carriages in his train; and the speaker upwards of twice that number. His royal highness the prince of Wales, and royal dukes, attended for the first time, not as princes, but as individual peers.

On the 4th, 5th, and 6th of this month, there were some appearances of riots in Edinburgh, some gentlemen got their windows broken, but no other mischief was done by the mob. By the interference of the military they were very soon quelled, not however till some lives were lost, they being obliged to fire before the mob would disperse.

London June 4th. We are sorry to observe that a riot took place in Monmouth-street on the king's anniversary, but no material damage was done.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

July 4. 1792.

France.

FRANCE has long exhibited a very interesting appearance to all surrounding nations, and affairs there begin now to assume a very serious cast, and approach to some important crisis. There is a determined firmness in the following letters of la Fayette, that could only proceed from a conviction that he is to have a powerful support. From whence that is to arise, a little time will probably discover; but now, we conceive, begins the most interesting period of the French revolution; and it deserves to be adverted to with care.

All our readers know, that for a long while past, a set of levellers, under the name of the club of Jacobins, have borne sovereign sway in France. They dictated to the king, to the national assembly, and to the nation itself. By their influence, the most atrocious deeds have been sanctioned with applause, and under the fascinating name of liberty, they have been sapping the foundations of true freedom. The last national assembly seemed to foresee this before their dissolution, and therefore discovered the most earnest solicitude to fix and define the constitution, and guard it from innovations with all the caution in their power. This constitution, having been solemnly approved of by the nation at large, has been a powerful barrier to their views. They durst not directly attack it; but no means have been neglected to sap its foundations, and to get it overturned by indirect means. As it is pretty generally believed, that the king adopted the constitution rather from necessity, than choice, their chief efforts have been hitherto directed towards the inducing him, and the royal family, to do something that might be deemed an infraction of the constitution, on his part, which would have afforded a fair pretext for them making such decrees, by way of pro-

viding for the safety of the public, as would have answered the purpose they had in view; but the king has been so well advised, as not to fall into the snare that was prepared for him.

The sober part of the nation have not, in the mean while, beheld these proceedings with indifference. They have perceived that the liberty they wished to secure, was in great danger of degenerating into licentiousness; and they have gradually begun to speak, and to act, with greater caution and circumspection than formerly. Their hopes of succeeding in establishing a free constitution, on a firm basis, and without bloodshed, seem to have been founded on preserving the life of the king and establishing his constitutional authority, as a proper counterpoise to the wild ebullitions of democratical phrenzy. Hence it has been very obvious for a long while past, that while one party have been endeavouring to depreciate the king in the eyes of the nation, the other party have endeavoured to make him obtain the popular favour. The popular favour he has, accordingly, obtained of late, in a very high degree.

The above, we conceive, to be a very fair representation of the internal state of France, at the period when the following remarkable letters were written, which, as very important state papers, are here subjoined for preservation.

National assembly, June 19.

The president announced a letter from M. la Fayette, dated June 17th, in which

'The general congratulates France that the ministry, which had the vain presumption, without any means to regulate the destiny of the country, is now on the eve of being unmasked, after having sacrificed to their ambition three of his colleagues.'

"France is in danger,—it founds all its hopes on the firmness, the wisdom, and the dignity of its representatives. Those representatives should be very careful never to deviate from that path which the constitution points out.

"The utmost rigour should be employed speedily to exterminate those who stile themselves the Jacobin faction, who are the focus of conspiracy, the center of insubordination and disorder; in fine, the source of past and present evils, and the contagious germ of future mischief.

"I invite the assembly to reflect that this distinct party is *an empire within an empire*,—they usurp the rights and the power of the people,—they have celebrated the assassins of Desiles,—they have celebrated a Jourdan.

"I denounce to you this

faction as hostile to the constitution, hostile to the glory of the legislative body, hostile to the king, hostile to the national guards, hostile to all the constituted powers, hostile to the discipline of the army, hostile to all France, which it keeps in continual ferment and disorder.

"I will communicate to the the assembly the correspondence of the principal minister who made use of the influence of this faction for his own elevation. It will be perceived, that, after having ordered me to advance without precaution, and to attack without means, he only gave us perfidious, weak, and false counsel.

"I clearly see, and others likewise will, perhaps, be sensible, that there is a good understanding between the members of the public agents of aristocracy, and those who assume the mask of patriotism, and who call themselves the most zealous patriots. In the army which I command, I see on all sides, patriotism, confidence, and all the virtues,—here calumny and faction are equally unknown. In order that we, soldiers of our country, may fight and die profitably in her defence, it is necessary that the number of her supporters should be equal to that of her enemies, and that thousands of arms should be opposed to them in the field, while, in the mean time, the sacred principles of the constitution are preserved in the interior parts of the empire, with all the care due to so precious a depôt. May liberty receive no injury,—may the royal power remain inviolate and independent, for it exists in the constitution,—may the king be revered, he is invested with the national dignity,—may his council not wear the chains of faction,—may the clubs destroyed by you, give place to the reign of the laws.

"Such are the representations, the petitions of a citizen, to whom no one can with justice impute any want of attachment to liberty. In addressing this letter to you, I obey the dictates of my conscience; I could not delay it longer; for amid the chances of war, the obligations to duty are neither diminished nor suspended."

(Signed) La Fayette.

Extract of a letter from M. la Fayette to the king.

Entrenched camp of Maubeuge, June 16. 1792. *4th year of liberty.*

"Sire,

"I have the honour to send your majesty the copy of a letter to the national assembly, in which your majesty will find the expression of sentiments that have animated my whole life. The king knows with what ardour, with what constancy, I have been at all

times devoted to the cause of liberty, to the sacred principles of humanity, equality, and justice. He knows that I was always the adversary of factions, the enemy of licentiousness, and that no power which I thought unlawful, was ever acknowledged by me. He knows my devotion to his constitutional authority, and my attachment to his person. Such, Sire, are the bases of my letter to the national assembly, such will be those of my conduct towards my country and your majesty, amid the storms which so many combinations, hostile, or factious, strive to draw upon us.

"It belongs not to me, Sire, to give to my opinions or my measures, a higher degree of importance than the unconnected acts of a simple citizen ought to possess; but the expression of my thoughts was always a right, and on this occasion becomes a duty; and although I might have fulfilled this duty sooner, if, instead of being to be heard from the midst of a camp, my voice had been to issue from the retreat from which I was drawn by the dangers of my country, I do not think that any public function, any personal consideration, releases me from exercising this duty of a citizen, this right of a freeman.

"Persist, Sire, strong in the authority which the national will has delegated to you, in the generous resolution of defending the principles of the constitution against all their enemies. Let this resolution, supported by all the acts of our private life, as by a firm and full exercise of the royal power, become the gage of harmony, which, above all in the moments of crisis, cannot fail to be established between the representatives elected by the people, and their hereditary representative. It is in this resolution, Sire, that for your country and yourself, are glory and safety. There you will find the friends of liberty, all good Frenchmen, ranged around your throne, to defend it against the machinations of the rebellious, and the enterprises of the factious. And I, Sire, who, in their honourable hatred, have found the recompence of my persevering opposition,—I will always merit it by my zeal to serve the cause to which my whole life is devoted, and by my fidelity to the oath which I have taken to the nation, the law, and the king.

"Such, Sire, are the unalterable sentiments of which I subjoin the homage, and that of my respect,"

(Signed) La Fayette.

Before the above letter appeared the clubists were in the most violent rage,—this has made them desperate,—and

we now touch the very crisis of our fate. Either the king or the club must triumph in two days from this date.

Last night, Monday, the Jacobins declared their sittings permanent. Nothing could equal the extravagance of their conduct. They proposed that M. la Fayette ſhould be sent to Orleans to ſtand trial as a traitor; but it was recollected that he was at the head of an army who might not give a civil reception to the huiſsier of their club. It was even proposed that a decree ſhould be paſsed, declaring him to be the enemy of France, and that conſequently every citizen had a right to kill him. And it was finally proposed, that the national legislative aſsembly ſhould be declared an *aſsemblee conſtituente.*

Finding themselves however in a minority in the national aſsembly, they had next recourse to the agents, on whom they had hitherto depended, the mob. By the inſtigation of these leaders, a vaſt body of people, conſisting of men, women, and children, armed with weapons of all ſorts, entered the national aſsembly, and paſsed through it with drums beating and colours flying. From thence they proceeded to the Thuilleries, leaving the aſsembly in the moſt anxious ſolicitude for the ſafety of the king; and burſting open the doors of the palace, the whole royal apartments were filled for nearly the whole day with a perpetual ſucceſsion of armed bands, who loudly demanded the king would ſanction the two obnoxious ſtatutes. But even among this mob the king has now become ſo popular a character, and he behaved with ſo much firmneſs and decorum, that no one was found ſo wicked as to inflict that wound which was probably expected by thoſe who inſtigated it, and which muſt have plunged the nation into a ſea of bloodſhed.

Thus paſsed over a day that will probably be long celebrated in the annals of France, as one of the moſt important that ever occurred in that country. This violent procedure immediately removed that miſt from the eyes of the national aſsembly, which had hitherto prevented them from ſeeing the infinite abſurdity and danger of countenancing the proceedings of a mob, under any pretext whatever: And it was unanimouſly decreed, That, on no account, ſhall any armed force be admitted in future into the national aſsembly. What will be the farther effects of this check to the proceedings of the Jacobin club, and the conſequences of the increaſe of power to the oppoſite party,

are still in the womb of futurity, and will be gradually displayed by succeeding events.

Poland.

Affairs in Poland wear an unfavourable and melancholy aspect; and never did the intrigues of princes display themselves under a more ungracious form. The revolution in Poland seems to have been conducted with so much cordiality, unanimity, good sense, and sound policy, by the nation at large, as to leave no room to doubt that it is agreeable to a very great majority of the people themselves, who are to be governed, and that it will have a necessary tendency to promote the general welfare of the whole; nor does it appear to infringe upon the rights of any external power. It is entirely a private regulation of police which concerns the Poles alone. Yet not only has Russia attacked that ill-fated nation with a powerful force, but Prussia, and the court of Vienna, have openly avowed their intention to force upon the Poles that barbarous system of government, which has made them so long the pity of all other nations. One would think that foreign powers had as good a right to prevent people from cultivating wholesome food for nourishing their bodies, as to prevent them from adopting such a salutary system of government as shall enable them to perfect their mental powers.

The king of Poland exhibits, at the present moment, one of the noblest spectacles that ever can attract the attention of mankind. A man whose long life has been spent in trying to heal those divisions which rendered his people miserable, and who had, at last, nearly succeeded in his desire of making them all happy, now in his old age, to be called forth to battle, in defence of that internal freedom, which, with much solicitude, he has so long endeavoured to procure for his family; for so he emphatically calls his whole people.

The following interesting proclamation deserves to be preserved to all future ages:

'We acquaint you, therefore respectable citizens, in our names, and that of the assembled confederate states, that the present state of Poland is that of self-defence against the Russian power; that Russia has declared war against Poland. But at the same time let us inform you, that, confident of the courage and spirit of the nation, the more efforts our enemies make to destroy our government and country, the more vigorous will our measures be to repel this foreign invasion.

'Worthy citizens, the fate of your dear country is now at

stake! such as you shall preserve it by your courage and virtue, will it pass to your remotest posterity. You are going to fight in defence of your country, your privileges, your freedom, and your fortunes; in defence of your parents, wives, and children; in short, of all that is most dear to man.

'We have an army raised by your zeal and assistance, supplied with every requisite, which will be your protection. There is an heroic spirit and courage which promises to support it. Such a noble ardour in defence of the country and national liberties, as is only to be found in free nations, inspires us with the most flattering hopes. We receive from all parts news the most consoling to our paternal feelings with what eagerness citizens of all conditions, at the call of their country, enlist and join the national army.

'The love of our country pervades all individuals, and excites their generosity in the public support. There is no class of citizens, who, inflamed with a patriotic zeal, do not contribute according to their capacity. We have a certain confidence, that the same gracious power who has inspired the whole nation with such a noble ardour, considering the justice of our cause, and the purity of our intentions, will not refuse us his irresistible aid.

'But above all, respectable citizens, seek for the safety of your country in union and firmness. We have sufficient strength to oppose our enemy, but nothing can save us from the effects of division and discord. A foreign war is never so dreadful to a nation as the internal disunion of the citizens. Has any power been able to effect any thing against Poland, while all the citizens, joining their king, have boldly stood forward in defence of their national laws, immunities, and territory? You will soon hear, dear citizens, the voice of falsehood and deceit; you will receive writings full of treachery and fraud. Those whose blindness and obstinacy have carried them so far as to make them insensible to the horror of raising their arms against their own country, and of bringing foreign soldiers against her, will calumniate the present government, will create distrust against us, and the virtuous Diet; will try to divide and separate you, knowing that they cannot resist your united strength and endeavours. Arm yourselves with fortitude and virtue, and give proof of such unanimity, such concord, in the defence of your country, in resisting perfidy and deceit, as you have demonstrated in accepting, in voluntarily swearing to maintain this happy constitution

and lately on the same occasion in the expreſsion of your patriotic sentiments, so dear to our paternal feelings. They who have brought a foreign army against your country, deserve your vengeance, and not your confidence. That army which comes for the purpose of destroying your government, prepares only the return of your former slavery instead of liberty. You have already experienced at how dear a rate Ruſsian protection is obtained. Violently carrying off from our residence, and during the Diet, senators, ministers and nuncios; the contemptuous treatment of our nobility; the violation of property; the oppreſsion of the towns, the seizure and forcible transportation of peasants and their families; and finally the dismembering of the republic—these are effects of the guarantee imposed upon us by Ruſsia. And can you expect any better at present from this power? As soon as Ruſsia has seduced you, ſhe will renew the ancient wounds of your country, ſhe will renew all our misfortunes. The nobility and citizens will only feel the heavier the preſsure of a newly enforced yoke, for having dared to become free and independent; the poor villagers, our labourers, and husbandmen, whom the law (benefitting all the Poliſh inhabitants) has received under its protection, will be driven in numbers from their fertile fields, into desart wastes; and lastly, the partition of the republic, and the final extinction of the Poliſh name, will be the fatal consequence of the disunion of Polanders.

'Citizens and dear countrymen, this is the advice and warning you receive from your king and father, and from the confederate states of the republic. But your virtue, the love of freedom, so natural to every Polander, aſsures us that fraternal concord will unite you in the defence of your country; that, inspired with the same spirit which guides your king and father, you will aſsemble around him, and will make a rampart impenetrable to all the attempts of the enemy.

'You see, citizens, what is your situation, you see what measures your king and Diet undertake for the common safety. Let the defence of your country engage all your thoughts and attention, let the strictest peace and unity prevail amongst you in such a critical moment as this. Follow your king, your father, and commander; follow him whom you have raised to the throne from amongst yourselves; and who in his advanced age, is going with you to expose his life in the common defence of his country.'

The length of these papers prevent the insertion of miscellaneous articles in this number.

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ERRATA.

Page 247 line 1 for *Barlase and Archilogia* read *Borlase and Archiologia.*
— 267 p. 21 and 22 for *apply* read *appeal.*
— 200 line 12 for *Dr Boswell* read *Mr Boswell.*
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